The Orchadian

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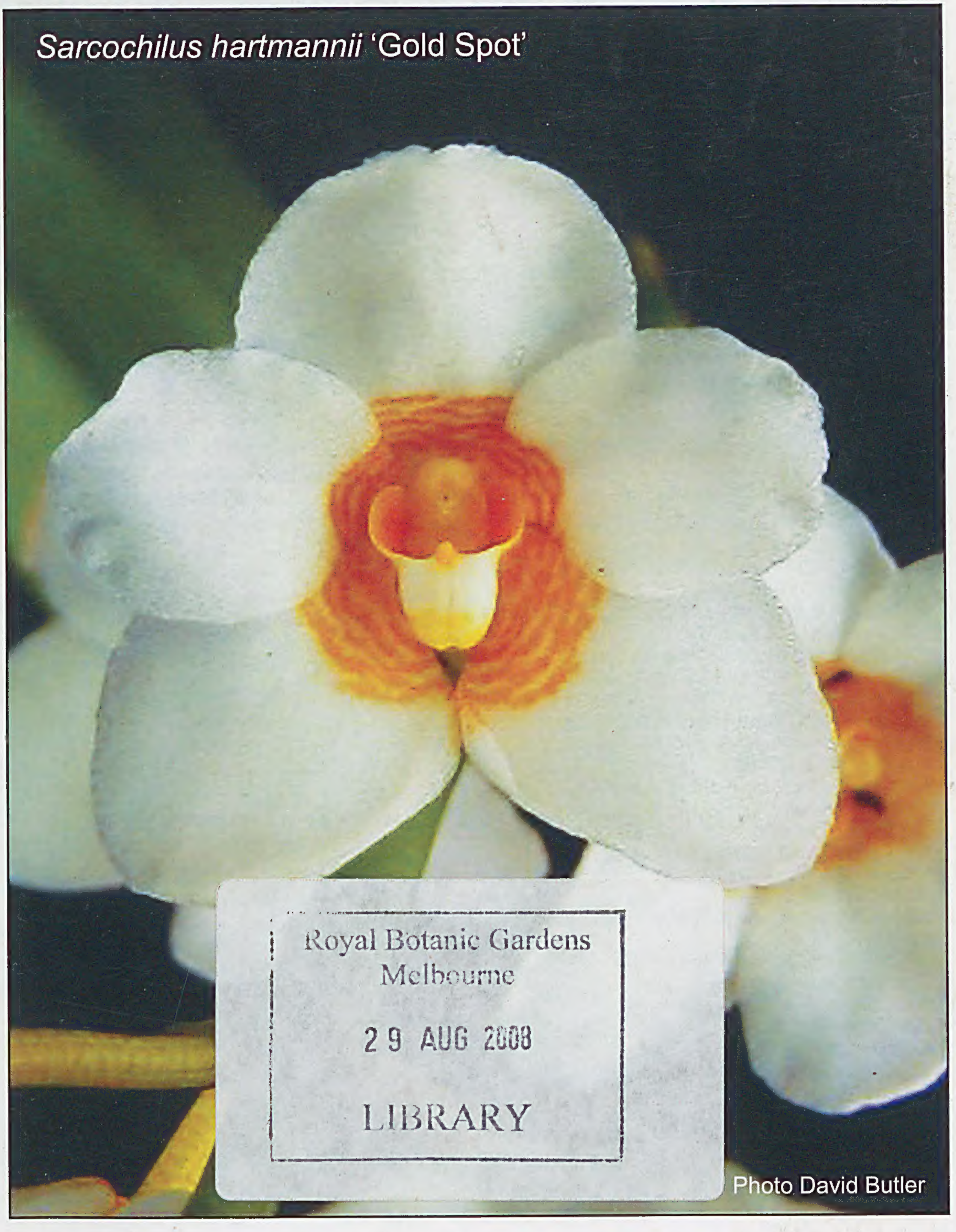
Official Journal of the Australasian Native Orchid Society



Sarcochilus hartmannii 'Gold Spot'

Photo David Butler

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The Orchadian
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LIFE MEMBERSHIP

AWARDED TO

DAVID L. JONES

At the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Australasian Native Orchid Society Inc. Life Membership was proposed for David L. Jones and unanimously accepted by all present.

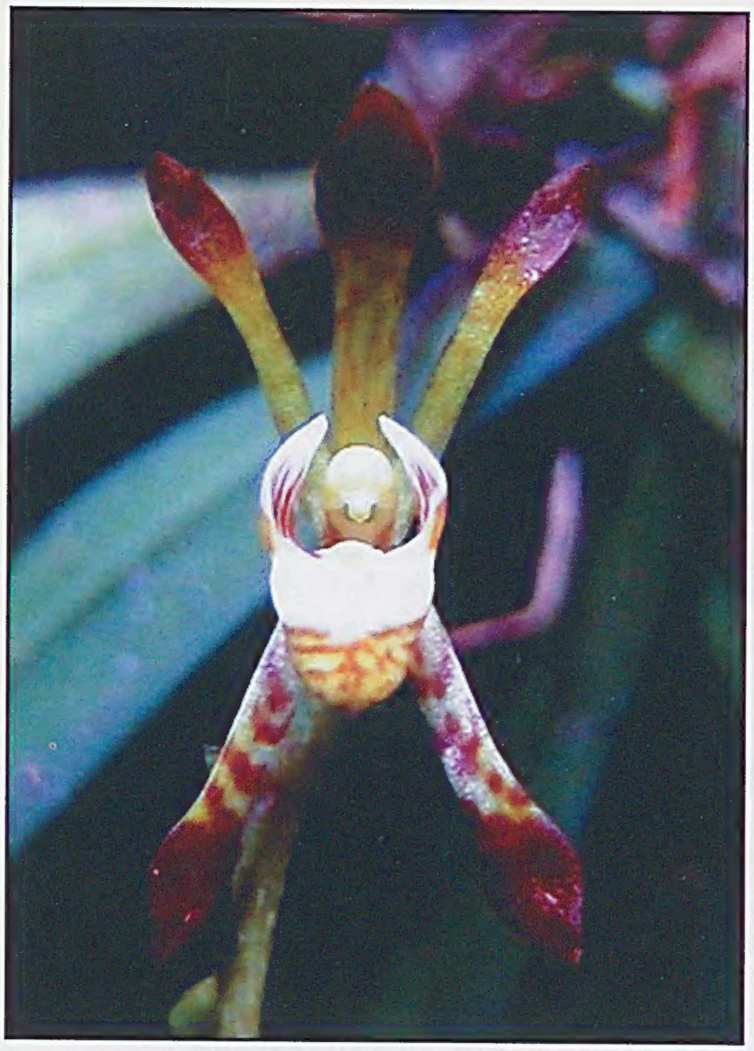
Davids support for *The Orchadian* has been second to none since its beginning in 1963. Very few issues have past without material generously offered by David.

David has spent most of his working life studying and writing books on our native orchid species and has built up a large network of orchid enthusiasts to promote the ongoing studies and conservation efforts into our orchids.

On behalf of all your orchid colleagues we offer our congratulations on the Life Membership and hope that in retirement your studies of our orchids will be a little more relaxing.

Congratulations David.

Peter Eygelshoven,
Editor *The Orchadian*



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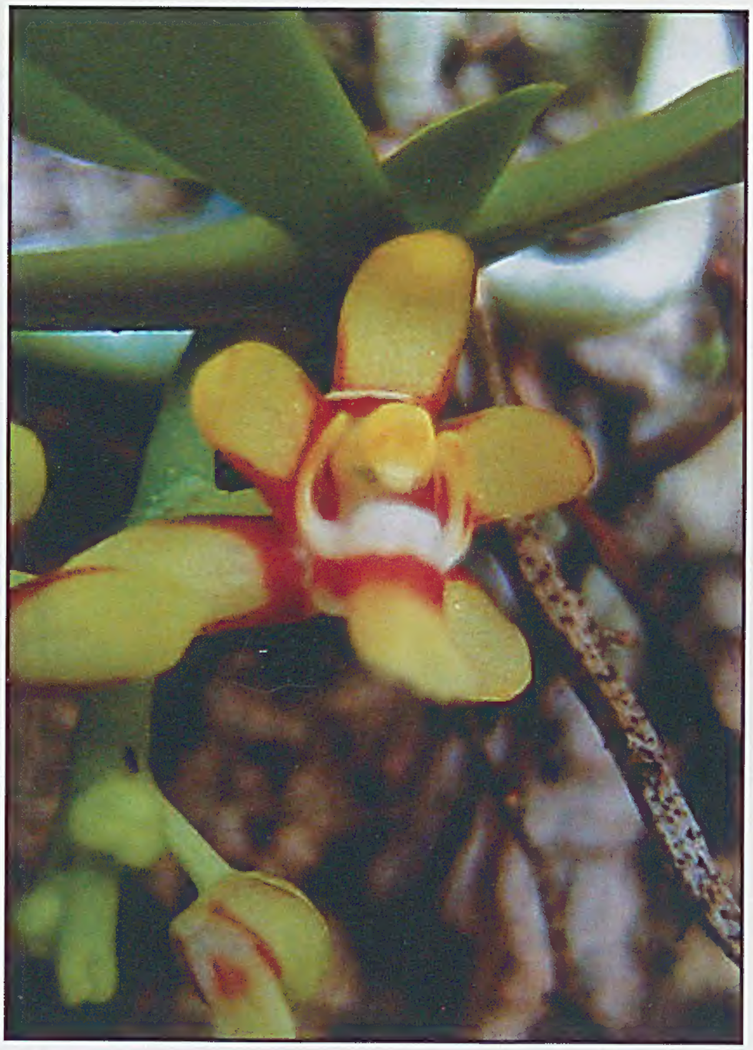

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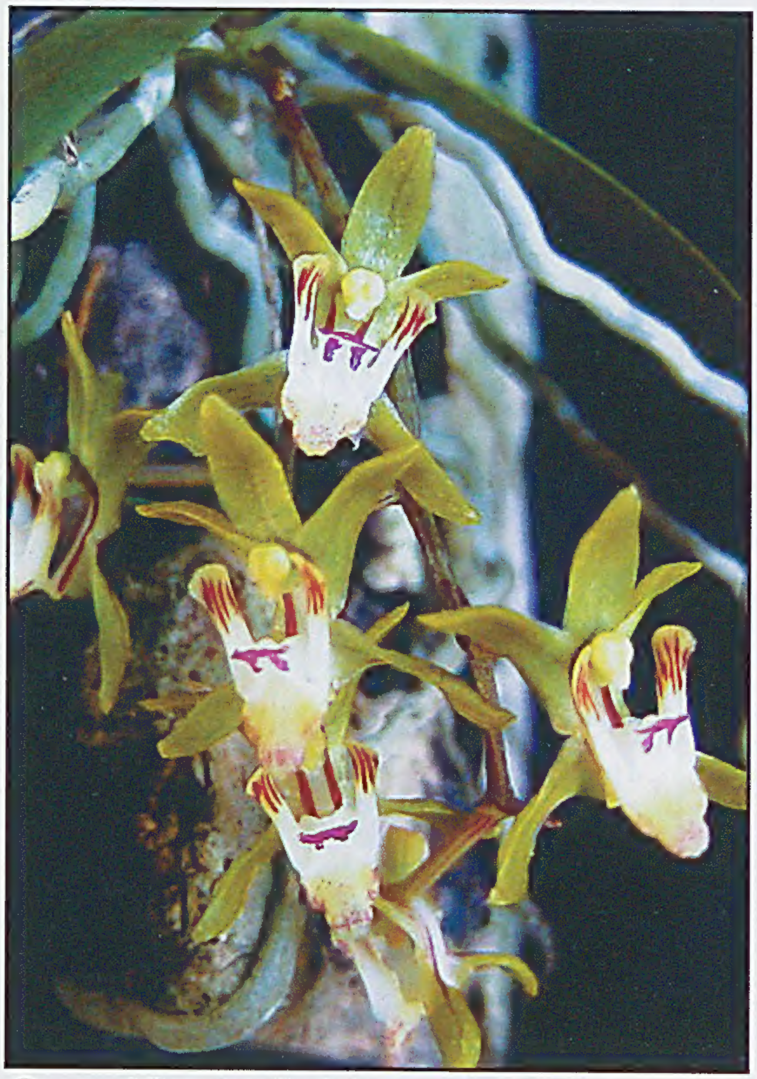

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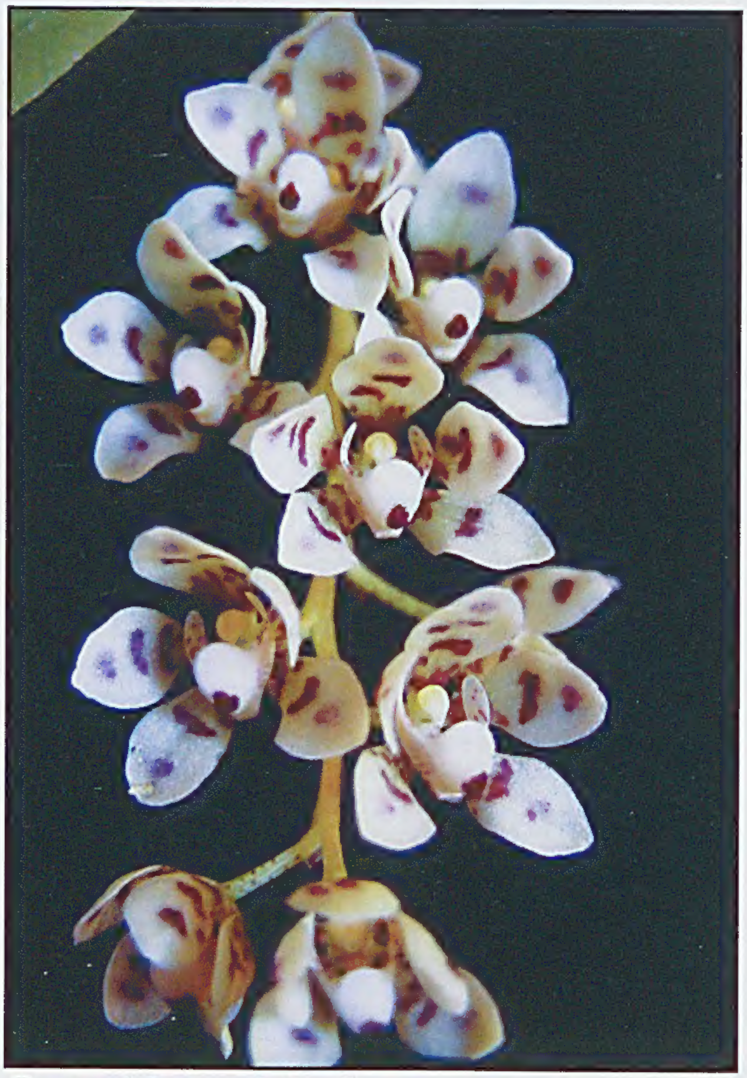
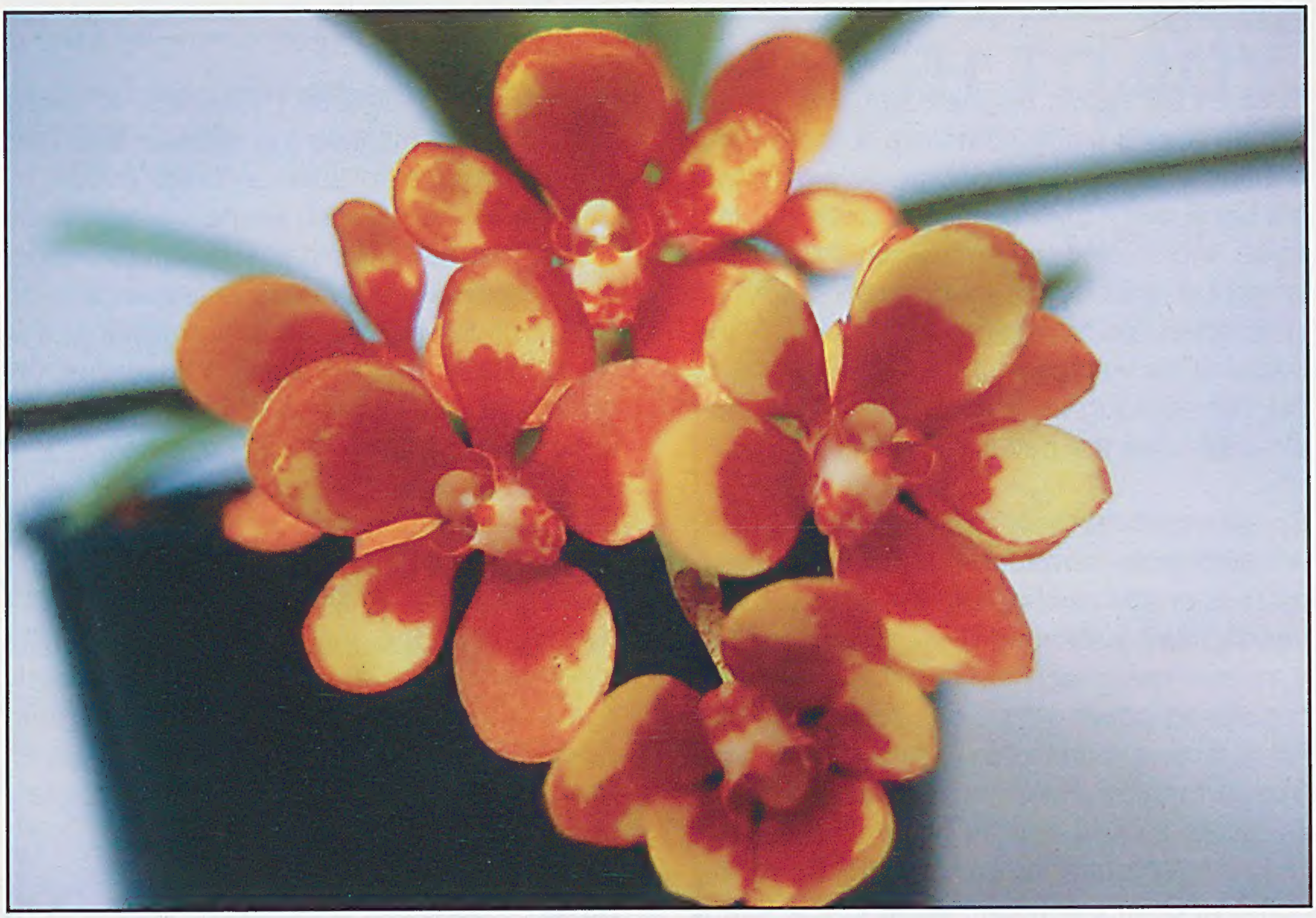


Sarcochilus weinthalii



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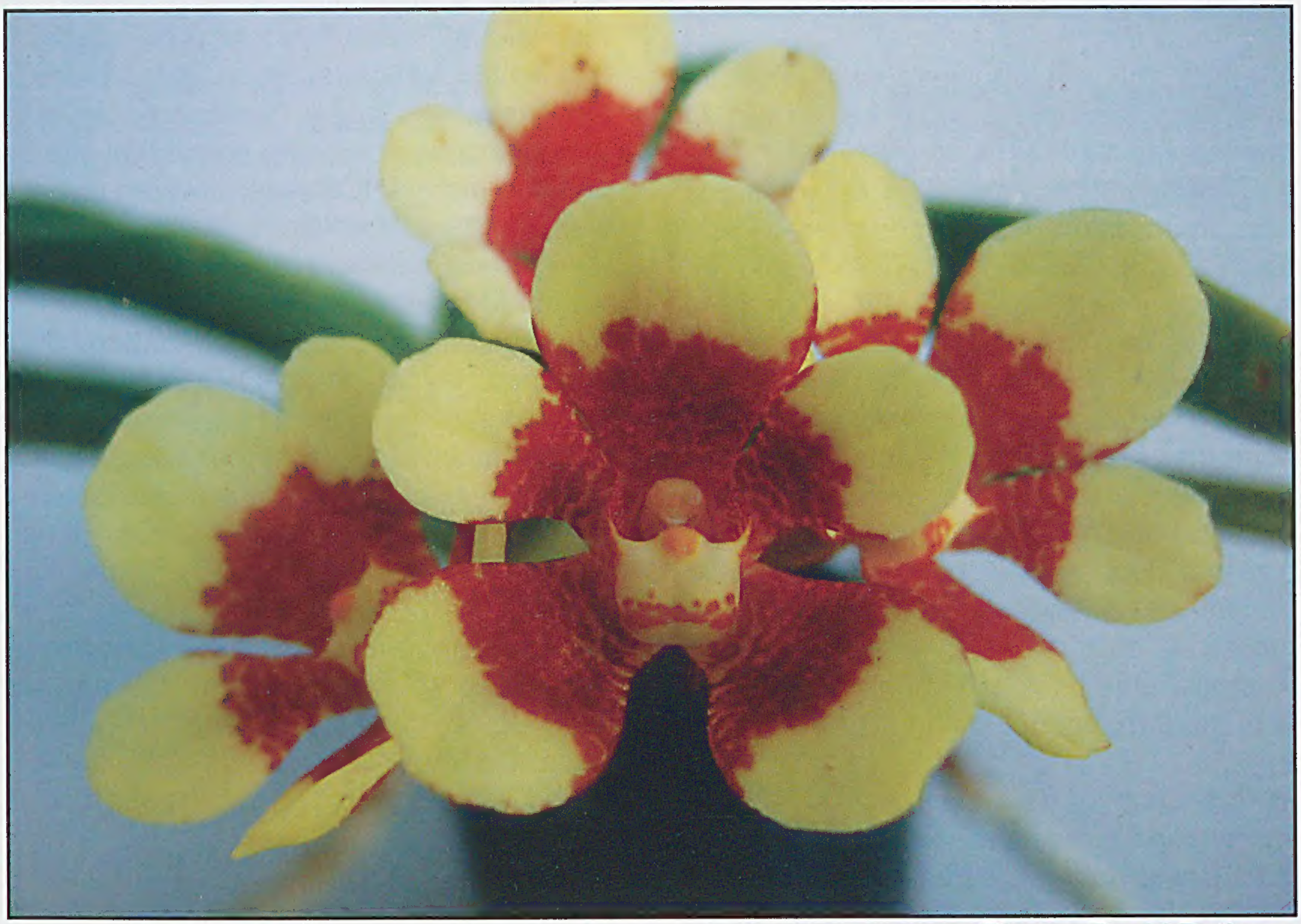

Sarcochilus (Cream Cake X *hartmannii*) 'Yellow and Tan'

Photos David Butler

Editorial

Firstly, I will report on the bad news. As we are all aware rising costs are a fact of life, printing and posting costs are no exception. It's been more than six years since our last price increase, so unfortunately I have to report that subscription prices to *The Orchadian* have gone up $5.00 across the board. This will take effect from the end of August, although the ANOS web site may already have the new prices.

Speaking of the new website, most of you will probably already know it has been professionally revamped. The website has been growing steadily since we introduced it many years ago and the demand for constant updating has become too much for just one person to oversee. Graeme Bradburn has looked after the site since its inception and done a wonderful job, but with the advancement in this field and the demand from the public viewing the site it needed professional work to keep up with the technology.

Graeme will still be overseeing most of the ANOS website, but it will be up to the individual Groups to keep their own web page up to date, with the changes and information about group activities. Each Group will be asked to nominate a member who will, with the help from Graeme, be the webpage co-ordinator. It will be their responsibility to update the Groups webpage. Anyone with some basic computer skills should be able to manage this. This member will be given a password to access the administration area to update material. But we will need to be a little patient as Graeme will be co-ordinating most of this while travelling around Australia, due back at the end of the year. Isn't modern technology amazing!

In this issue of *The Orchadian*, we have something for most readers, a great article from David Butler, of Green Vista Orchids, on breeding 'yellow' *Sarcochilus*, there are some great photos to tempt us into buying these beautiful crosses. Graeme Bradburn, on his little trip to Tasmania tells of the struggle to save a forest coupe by the locals. No issue would be complete without something from Alan Stephenson, our Conservation Officer, he is complaining about never having an idle moment, (my heart bleeds for you Alan). I know I would rather be bushwalking with people than writing an Editorial??

Brian Gerhard, of Down Under Native Orchids, DUNO, has updated us on the growing trend in Australasian *Dockrillia* hybrids and the influence that *Dockrillia striolata* has on these hybrids. Certainly some of the hybrids around now have more colours and frills than the skirts of a Moulin Rouge Can Can Dancer!!! Absolutely beautiful, the orchids that is!

David Jones describes two new *Speculantha* species from south eastern Australia. Christine Goonrey, President of the National Parks Association of the ACT, has written a book report on *The Orchids of the Australian Capital Territory*, by David L. Jones and we finish with some show dates and two more ANOS Awards given out last year.

Nette Meggetto, Associate Director of the Australian Orchid Foundation, has informed us of the AOF's new postal address and the specials they are currently having, so have a look at these on page 42. The AOF supports many studies into our native orchids so if you can support them, you will be helping our native orchids.

All the Spring and Sarcanthinae Shows are coming up so this busy time of year will keep us on our toes and hopefully allow us to see the latest hybrids and the best orchid species being grown by the orchid fraternity.

Peter

Most Popular article for 2007-2008

This years most popular article went to Colin Bower for his paper on: The Wasp, Ant and Bird Orchids of the Chiloglottis Alliance - A General Overview. Volume 15 No 9, p402.

Congratulations Colin and we hope to read more about these amazing orchids.

Peter

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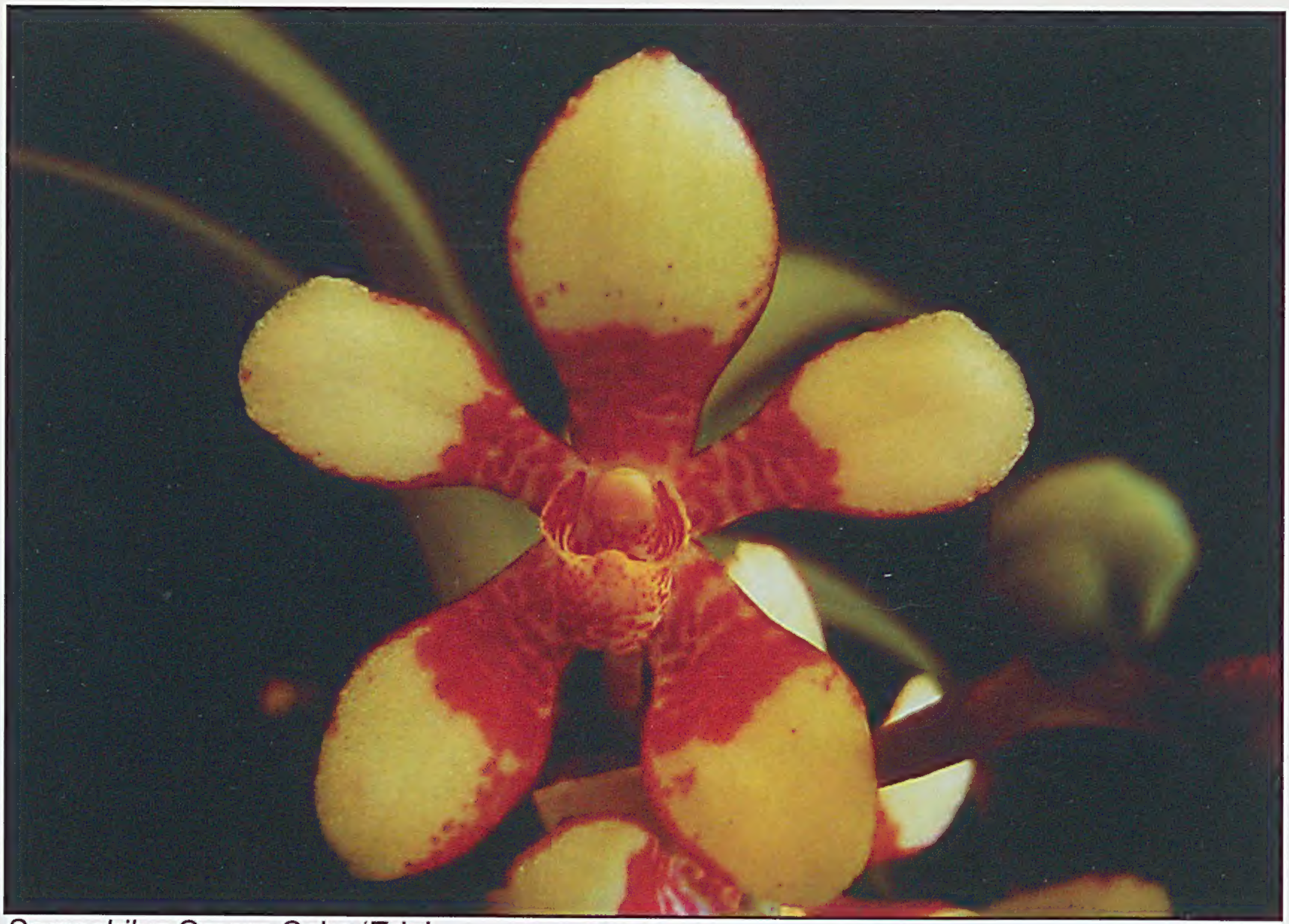
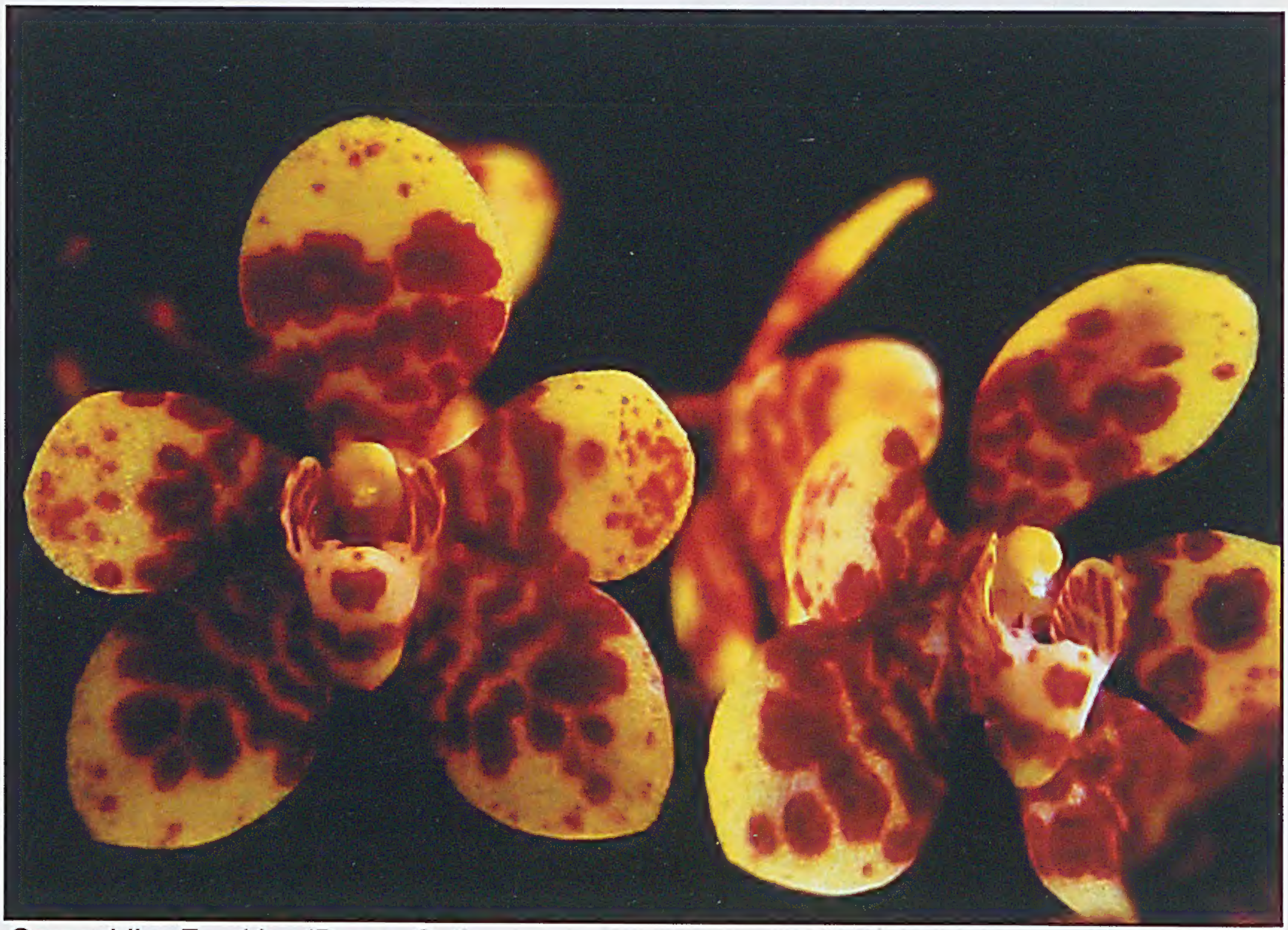


Sarcochilus Cream Cake ‘Erin’



Sarcochilus Freckles ‘Brown Cat’

Photos David Butler

Some thoughts on yellow *Sarcanthinae* hybrids.

David Butler
Green Vista Orchids
Central Coast, NSW

Over the last few years, probably starting with *Sarcochilus* First Light, we began to appreciate the exciting possibilities of breeding classy yellow *Sarcs*. Hybridists keep trying to produce interesting new flower colours together with improvements to shape and presentation. The ability to consistently produce such *Sarcanthinae* hybrids, especially in bright unfading yellows, has proved an elusive goal.

Part of the reason for this is that *Sarcanthinae* species which pass on yellow colours usually exhibit qualities which might prevent them producing top-class yellow hybrids. Negative aspects include the following:- flowers that often do not open in sequence and are short-lived (*Rhinerrhiza divitiflora and Rhinerrhiza moorei*); narrow floral segments, sometimes twisted (*Sarcochilus olivaceus*); small flowers (*S. dilatatus, S. spathulatus, Plectorrhiza tridentata*, etc). When some species are used the yellow colour of the resulting hybrid fades quickly to pale cream.

So much for negative thinking! As we learn the potential of the various *Sarcanthinae* species we begin to realise that flower shape and size may not be dominant characteristics, whereas colour might be. In the case of *Sarcochilus* First Light, it takes two generations to achieve a filled-in flower but along the way the lovely colours of the diminutive *S. dilatatus* carry through.

S. hirticalcar and *S. olivaceus* are two other species capable of passing on yellow colouring to their progeny. The resulting hybrids frequently lack size or shape but crossing again with suitably coloured large flowers can overcome this.

One way, we have found, to maintain shape and keep the yellow colour is to introduce two or more different yellow species into the mix at some stage. When this is done other species such as *S. weinthalii* also have a lot to offer. Apart from bright, unfading yellows, we often end up with a whole range of pleasing tones and splashes without a purple touch in sight. *Sarcochilus* Misty (*S.* Aussie Dawn x *S.* Riverdene) is an example where *S. dilatatus* and *S. hirticalcar* are used in combination to produce bright unfading yellow/golds

In recent years some splendid yellow-centred white flowers have appeared on the scene. Many of these are the result of crosses incorporating *S. hartmannii* 'Red Snow' HCC which throws the occasional albinistic seedling. These large yellow-centred flowers are now being crossed with smaller full yellows such as *S.* Misty to produce stunning full-shaped unfading yellow/golds.

Sarcochilus Freckles (*S.* Riverdene x *S. weinthalii*) has some exceptional colouration. Flowers are spotted or splashed in orange/brown over a mustard yellow background. Unfortunately these are reluctant to breed but we keep trying. To date only a handful of seedlings has resulted from one crossing (*S.* Freckles 'Pepper and Salt' x *S. hartmannii* 'Orange Snow'). At least this small success shows that *S.* Freckles will breed.

S. Kellie (*S.* Cream Cake x *S.* Nicky) flowers have an orange/yellow background overlaid with red/brown markings. This cross contains *S. olivaceus* and *S. hirticalcar*, along with *S. hartmannii* and *S. fitzgeraldii*. Some seedlings exhibit quite a strong, unfading, yellow coloration. *S.*

Kellie should have a bright future as a parent of unusual colours.

When breeding within the *Sarcanthinae* there are a lot of dead ends. Occasionally the most desirable and colourful seedlings will not breed further. It can take some time (as in years) to determine whether the seedling simply needs to mature more, or if it actually will breed but only as the pod parent or pollen parent. Another aspect is that progeny from the same cross (siblings) are individuals and each may differ in breeding ability.

Plant habit within the *Sarcanthinae* can vary. Some *Sarcanthinae* species tend to clump up, while in others the initial monopodial growth simply keeps extending with few, if any, side growths. To create colourful flowers the species used are often in the latter category, and may pass on this characteristic to their progeny. It therefore seems desirable to introduce into these crosses, where logical, parents which clump up rapidly in the hope this clumping trait will be passed on.

Culturally it has been interesting, and tricky at times, to accommodate the needs of some of the latest seedlings, especially when a newly created hybrid features a "twig epiphyte" or two in its parentage. Even seedlings from the same cross can vary in their individual needs, some preferring pot culture and others needing to be mounted.

Cultivating the *Sarcanthinae* is a most rewarding hobby, especially when seedlings flower for the first time. As these new crosses flower the hybridist has an ever-expanding base from which to draw the parents of the future. With such exciting possibilities before us we must surely agree that now is a great time to be growing *Sarcs*!

-oOo-

(more photos from this article on pages 44, 45 and the back cover, Ed.)

DENDROBIUM SPECIOSUM SPECTACULAR & AUSTRALIAN ORCHID SPECIES SHOW 2008

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(Ted & Winsome Walmsley and ANOS Mid North Coast Group)

Now in its seventh year, this is a must for your orchid calendar.
All welcome to exhibit and judging will be by an all ANOS panel.
Monetary prizes and trophies will be awarded in a range of classes including other epiphyte and terrestrial categories.

Interstate entries are encouraged with a prize for the most travelled orchid. In addition there will be a show of Australian hybrids, which will also be judged, at the same location and dates shown below.

Dates: **Sat 6th Sept 10am to 4pm**
Sun 7th Sept 9am to 4pm
Mon 8th Sept 9am to 4pm

Location: **57 Spooners Ave., Greenhills via Kempsey.**

Details: **Electronic copy of brochure with locality map, show schedule and associated events available by e-mailing John Zietsch at jzi01935@bigpond.net.au OR contact Ted Walmsley on (02) 6562-7150 or Ernie Baldwin on (02) 6585-9328.**

40 years on and still going strong.

Richard Bament
rjbament@melbpc.org.au

The Australasian Native Orchid Society (Vic Group) celebrates 40 years continuous service to the preservation, cultivation and knowledge of Australian orchids. A strong and vibrate group with now over 600 members a significant change from the 5 enthusiastic foundation members that met on the 16th of August 1968. At the inaugural meeting office bearers were elected; President L. Raynes, Vice President Alan Home and Committee David Jones, Ray Smith and Dick Smith. At the next meeting in October David Cannon joined the committee and became the first Secretary of the group.

At the first meeting Bill Murdoch was the guest speaker and was to become the first life member of A.N.O.S. Victorian Group the award was in recognition of his contribution in forming A.N.O.S. Inc. the parent group and his continuing endeavors in native orchids. Bill Murdoch provided plants and the prize for October fund raiser was a *Dendrobium* Ellen, of Bill's crossing. Four months later the Tuber Bank was established and a call went out for spare tubers to be sent to Newcastle A.N.O.S. Group in exchange for epiphytes, from these simple gestures of cooperation large numbers of plants are now safely held in the collections around the country – Tuber Bank still ships hundreds of tubers each year.

Within the society today, there are a number of "Special Interest Groups" focused on specific areas of interest the Terrestrial Cultivation & Seed Group centre their activities around the flasking of seed, deflasking techniques and materials. The "Epiphyte Study Group" covers all topics related to epiphytic genera with visits to leading growers where rigorous discussion brings forth new ideas and cultural methods. While the "Terrestrial Study Group" is actively engaged with field trips to see orchids in their natural habitat, this also attracts a strong following of photographers.

Conservation is a common denominator for all groups as we seek to preserve habitat, assist with plant rescue, translocation, propagation and reintroduce plants to the wild as well as educating the general public on the need to conserve this precious natural resource.

The annual Spring Show has grown to a level of success where it is now being claimed by some commentators as the best native orchid show held in Australia, we are fortunate to have a very large cross section of plant materials within member collections that are made available at show time, this provides a showcase for some very rare and endangered species that will not be viewed elsewhere. The show is held over the last weekend in September each year and a queue forms prior to the 9 o'clock opening as enthusiasts gather for the chance to buy something special for their collections.

As the society marks this important year we are hoping to contact as many past members as possible, in particular the office bearers that helped build the group with the view to hosting a 'Welcome on the Sunday', where love of orchids will again bring old friends together.

Never an idle moment.

Alan W Stephenson
National Conservation Officer
Australasian Native Orchid Society (ANOS)

The orchid season on the New South Wales south coast in 2008 began with greater momentum than had been the case for several years as rainfall during January and February amounted to 390 mm. However, March proved to be more of a summer than the beginning of autumn with less than 50 mm and numerous consecutive days with the temperature over 30°C. Many of the species which were abundant in those first two months were left to quickly wither in the heat. The saving grace was that I had the opportunity to see several terrestrial species I had not seen before. While driving along one of my favourite tracks in late February I noticed several plants of *Cryptostylis hunteriana* which I had not previously seen in this particular national park. As a plan of management is currently being prepared for this NP I contacted my local office of the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) with the GPS points for these plants and a note to say the find had added some extra value to the area. This particular NP is now home to all species of *Cryptostylis* available in NSW and all along six kilometres of track. It is also home to the vulnerable species *Genoplesium baueri* and the most southerly occurrence of *Tetrabaculum tetragonum* in Australia.

On the conservation front things had slowed from the turmoil at the end of 2007 and I was hoping for an easy ride for a month or two, however the opposite has happened. Issues differed from people wanting to rescue storm damaged orchids in Queensland to endangered species under threat from an Airport extension near Perth and following the problems associated with ruby mining in the Barrington Tops State Conservation Area the NPWS section of DECC have prepared a Plan of Management for public comment, which required a response from me as ANOS National Conservation Officer. Further to this was a submission to yet another Plan of Management, proposed for an extension to the Jervis Bay National Park and Woollamia Nature Reserve. This was one which required attention as there are approximately 90 orchid species within the boundaries of these parks, including several threatened species. I also received a request from DECC regarding locations and numbers of *Genoplesium baueri*. This is in regard to a proposal for a residential development on a site near Jervis Bay which contains the largest population of this species, a total of 72 plants, spread over approximate 70 hectares. Other situations (some old some new) also received attention. One of the old ones was my continuation of a conservation display at the Nowra Show. This runs for two days and my format is to present a static display of threatened orchids photos coupled with a continuous digital presentation of native orchids. I also promote ANOS and distribute an information sheet which allows people who find unknown orchids to record numerous details to enable orchid identification of at least the orchid genus if not the species. One of the more recent problems is centred in Railton in the north of Tasmania and naturally concerns logging and orchids. Unfortunately with Tasmania it appears logging, whether by government department or private company dominates and all must bow to what is alleged to be necessary but at the same time a most destructive operation.

The situation is that a property abuts a particular logging coupe and the owners of this property have recorded the location, species and flowering of orchids on the property for several decades. Logging of the coupe is planned for the immediate future and as such an orchid survey was considered necessary. However, the survey consisted of looking at the records kept by the property owners, with one afternoon and the following day considered sufficient to survey an area of 80 hectares or just over 200 acres. There are many words which could be used to describe a survey such as this but the best I can use here is "inadequate". As a result of this, well known ANOS identity, Graeme Bradburn was a guest of the property owners in February this year and led a survey which uncovered numerous orchid species and one in particular, *Speculantha atriola*, which is listed as Endangered under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (TSP Act) and the Commonwealth *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The original indications were that about 250 individual plants exist within these nine populations, including the logging coupe and adjoining private property, although more recent information put the population at 1000+. Readers will find it amazing (perhaps) that a survey conducted by an independent orchid authority has now shown approximately 100 individuals of *S. atriola* to be in the logging coupe and adjoining property, where it was previously considered habitat for just a handful. Unfortunately, Tasmanian forest practices allow for track widening through the habitat of endangered orchids in order to access a logging coupe. In the meantime numerous quadrats have been established and will be the subject of a trial during the logging period. It appears these quadrats, known to contain *S. atriola,* will not be excised from the logging area and the operation will continue as if a threatened species did not exist. This massacre will be termed as a trial to determine how the orchids will withstand the logging onslaught which comprises fire, heavy vehicles and all the problems associated with human invasion, including trampling, soil compaction and possible infestation of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* and other weeds.

At the Jandakot Airport 16 km south of Perth an extension for a fourth runway was proposed which would impact on *Arachnorchis huegelii*, an EPBC listed species. Apart from land already within the Airport boundaries a large section (102 ha) of neighbouring Ken Hurst park was to be cleared. This park contains a large population of *A. huegelii* and naturally an immediate reaction was to relocate the orchids but "The Friends of Ken Hurst Park" and the West Australian Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group were determined this must not be allowed to occur and began a concerted effort to reverse this mode of thought. Dr. Eddy Wajon is the Convenor of the "Friends" and also Conservation Officer for the WA Study Group and has regularly provided me with information regarding this and some other WA conservation matters. Due to the constant and informed pressure via submissions Dr. Wajon and local groups were able to impart, the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Anthony Albanese, has rejected the development application and referred the matter to the Conservation Minister, Peter Garrett. I would like to think this matter would not proceed any further as it is unlikely the environment department will reverse the decision of the department responsible for the initial decision. There is an obvious contrast between the Tasmanian situation and that in Western Australia, highlighted by the willingness of someone to actually put the environment above development. It is possible some mediation might take place at a later date and possibly an appeal by Jandakot Airport Holdings Pty. Ltd. but a message has been sent in terms which are quite clear. Airports are usually considered sacrosanct in that they normally are allowed to operate unfettered by such trivialities as environmental problems due to their money earning capacities of new citizens, tourism, jobs and all associated benefits.

In late March an email arrived through the ANOS network and it asked for an identification of an orchid. This is something which occasionally occurs and I can usually do this successfully, occasionally with the help available from ANOS members but this email indicated an environmental problem apart from the requested identification. In northern New South Wales a section of land near the Border Ranges NP is set to be sold to a timber company. As luck would have it this land includes a track into the NP and if sold, access into the NP from this point, would be curtailed. The orchid concerned was thought to be *Geodorum terrestre* which is listed as Endangered under the NSW TSC Act. Later indications pointed to the species being *Calanthe australasica* but at the time the only photos available were of a plant with seed capsules. Logging is currently being undertaken and my concerns are that an Environmental Impact Statement has not been done, for if a survey had been completed, *G. terrestre* (and other orchid species) should have been located, as the possibility of its occurrence in the area is quite strong. If the access track is widened to accommodate heavy logging vehicles, this species could be at risk. One problem with this probable development is that so far there has been no call for public input.

A more simple identification was done early this year following another email, complete with mud map. The map showed part of a track at Fitzroy Falls about 50 km north of Nowra which is part of the large and fragmented Morton NP. The map indicated what was said to be a location for *Cryptostylis hunteriana*. I was suspicious as to the species identification as this is a well travelled area of the Morton NP and any plants should have been located many years ago. However, I felt obligated to have a look as it is only 45 minutes from home but although I enjoyed the walk and took more photos of an area I have visited many times, the orchid was identified as *Cryptostylis leptochila*.

On a more pleasing and productive note I recently enjoyed the company of Dr. Lachlan Copeland for two days, as he searched the Nowra area for threatened species orchids in relation to work he is doing at the University of New England. After a series of emails regarding flowering times of *Genoplesium baueri* and several other species, he hastily arranged time away from the UNE and made his way to Robertson in the Southern Highlands of NSW where he hoped to see *Diplodium pulchellum*. Even though the season had been good with heavy rain for January and February the timing was very early but a single flowering plant was located and the beginning of his southern journey was successful just before the light was too dim to see anything. Returning to Nowra we set out the next morning to see *G. baueri* and several deceased plants of *Cryptostylis hunteriana*. This area will eventually become a residential housing development but my understanding is the land containing *G. baueri* and *C. hunteriana* will be one of the lots preserved. The immediate area is vegetated by a sprinkling of *Banksia ericifolia* and *Eucalyptus gummifera* in sandy soil. Leaving this residential lot we searched a nearby section of rock shelf for some *Corunastylis* species, finding the ever present *C. apostasioides* and one described as *C.* sp. aff. *archeri*. However less than one km away on another rock shelf there were approximately 50 plants of *C. oligantha*, which is a very good and colourful (albeit small) photographic subject.

Next on the list of places to go was a section of the Jerrawangla NP in one of my favourite and most productive areas. We saw numerous individuals of *C. woollsii* and one *G. baueri* with nine flowers, *C. laminata, C. pumila, C. apostasioides* and the last two flowering plants of *C. hunteriana* for 2008. Still on the same track we also saw *Chil. Sylvestris,* before returning to Nowra, where at the site of both *Speculantha parviflora* and *Spec. vernalis*, was yet another individual of *C. oligantha* and another *C.* sp. aff. *archeri.* The day ended near Nowra with flowers of *Diplodium obtusum* and *Pterostylis hispidula* with the latter still a week away from opening.

Tuesday saw us further west from Nowra

towards the damaged site of *C. superbum* but before this was a stop for *Crangonorchis pedaglossa,* another on Lachlan's must see list. This was in company with *Cryptostylis leptochila, Eriochilus cucullatus, Pharochilum daintreanum* and *Spec. parviflora* and a few minutes up the road to the damaged site of *C. superba* where a lone flowering plant was noted. Following the damage to this site, just one plant produced flowers in 2007 and three in 2008.

After a brief stop we were to meet Dr. Dean Rouse of the ANU, who was to escort Lachlan to sites in the Braidwood and Canberra area. Dean knows the area well and at one roadside verge we saw more plants of *C. superba* along with *C. oligantha, C. ostrinum, C. apostasioides, Spiranthes australis* and what I call the everywhere orchid, *Eriochilus cucullatus.* Another nearby location produced a few more specimens of *C. superba* making 10 in all for 2008 across the three known sites alleged to contain 42 plants. This is not what I would term a good flowering season despite the above average rainfall over summer. This site also produced, *Diplodium reflexum, E. cucullatus, Chil. trilabra, Speculantha* sp., and two ground hugging plants of *Dip. truncatum*. The surprise here was a bearded orchid in bud and with our curiosity charged, a flower was partially opened with hot breath and deft fingers. The identification assumption was *Calochilus therophilus*, a new species only recently described in Vol 5 of the *Australian Orchid Research.*

A further 20 km south was my last stop for the day and probably the best as we saw *Dip. obtusum, Dip. reflexum, Acianthus exsertus* and a species I had not seen *in situ, Dip. laxum.* Since then I have seen numerous specimens of *Dip. laxum* but the first plant was undoubtedly the most attractive of all and not because it was the first. With a trip of 160 km back to Nowra I left Lachlan and Dean to continue scouring the Canberra district for other species of interest but I was pleased Lachlan had ticked off all species on his list.

Two weeks later following yet more emails I had the pleasure of escorting a couple from Albany (WA) on a day trip to numerous site around Nowra where we saw most of the preceding species and several epiphytes, even managing a mass flowering of *Adelopetalum exiguum*. Trevor and Jean Cunningham were a pleasure to be with and although reasonably new to orchids were very keen and also proved to have a good eye for orchids. Being from WA, all species seen were new to them. They also managed to see *Calanthe australasica* at a site to which I gave directions, further down the south coast. A few plants were still in flower and as it is an easily located evergreen species they had no difficulty in finding those plants in flower.

This article has been written to indicate some of what I do as National Conservation Officer, both on an official basis and also in what free time I have. I am pleased to say it is not all about sitting at home writing submissions and being a source of annoyance to my local council. The Jandakot Airport is not the only piece of good news, as the situation regarding *Diuris aequalis* has taken a turn for the better but that will be the subject a separate story. In a more practical vein, ANOS Illawarra members spent time recently at the site of *Oligochaetochilus gibbosus* near Wollongong, removing plants of the dreaded *Lantana camara* and also the native, *Pittosporum undulatum.* I also put in a second day two weeks later but I feel two or three more days will be needed to rid the site of both of these weeds and allow this special orchid to grow unimpeded.

With all that has happened so far this year I can truly say there are few idle moments.

-oOo-

Tasmanian State Forest Coupe BG034A

Graeme Bradburn

In February I visited Tasmania. It was not an ideal time for observing orchids since the peak flowering time is spring and early summer. In addition, Tasmania's continuing drought reduced the likelihood of finding many orchids in flower.

Before embarking on the trip, Alan Stephenson (ANOS National Conservation Officer) arranged for me to meet the Crowther family from Railton who were battling to save the orchids and other flora and fauna from the proposed forestry development of the adjacent forestry coupe.

Railton is a small town about forty kilometres from Devonport. It has a town population of around 900 and its main industry is the cement works. Surrounding the town are the many farms which chiefly run dairy or beef cattle. So, having departed the Ferry at Devonport, I drove the short scenic journey to the Crowther's property which is only a short distance from town. The next two days I stayed with Lucy and Adrian Crowther and their children Adrian and Nicholas, enjoying their excellent hospitality and also learning a little of their impressive struggle they have embarked on to save an important biodiversity hotspot from destruction.

The biodiversity hotspot in question is the State Forest coupe BG034A. This coupe surrounds the Crowther property on three sides and contains wet eucalypt forest. Forestry Tasmania typically improves its productivity by altering the dynamics of the forest to bring about a uniform growing and collecting regime. The process of managing forestry assets is termed silviculture and aims to maximise high productivity that is sustainable. The sustainability however relates chiefly to the growing of timber and not the preservation of an areas' biodiversity.

At this point I will mention that this is not a presentation on the merits or otherwise of such practices. This is chiefly an outline of the problems faced by individuals, groups and communities that may wish to preserve a forest or other nature place that is valued for its biodiversity or other values that they regard as important.

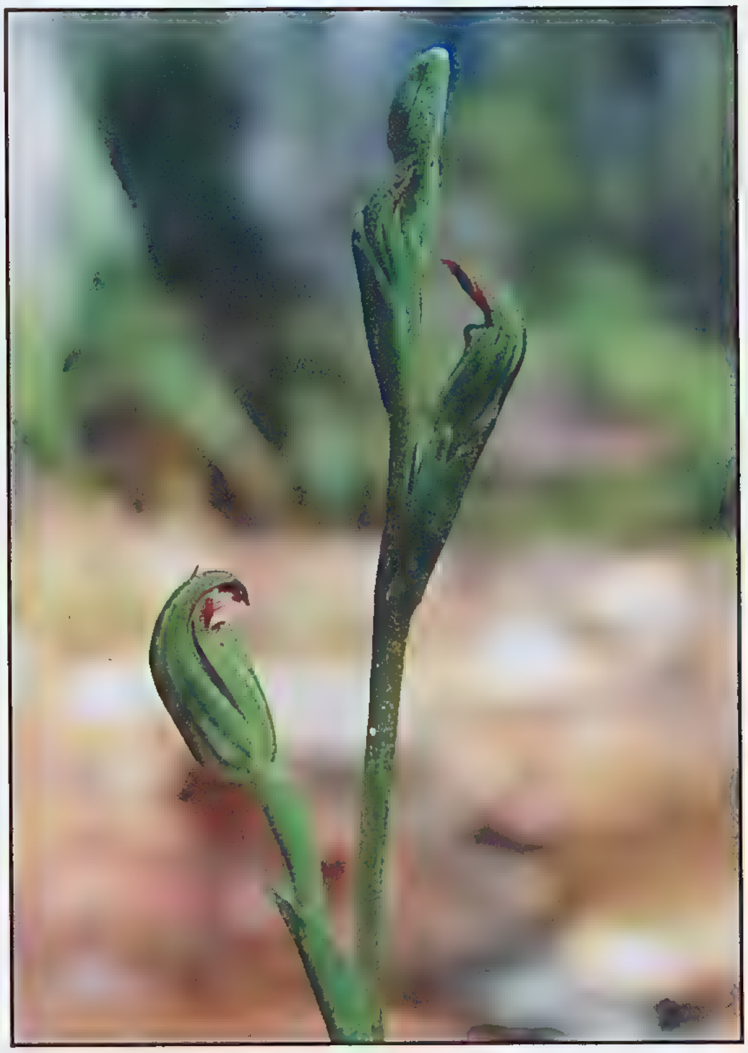
In this case the forest undergoes significant alteration. Seed trees are retained within the remaining forest and understory cleared. This clearing usually includes the burning of the remaining trash. Once the seedlings reach around five metres the seed trees are also removed to allow uniform tree growth to maximise yield and ease of harvesting. Naturally this disturbance impacts **on** the flora and fauna biodiversity. Forestry practices have to include the management of environment values that include biodiversity values, threatened species communities and habitats, geomorphology, soil and water values, old growth, air quality and giant trees.

The process for developing forest includes notifying adjacent landholders and site inspections undertaken by their experts to determine what environment management practices need to be introduced. In this case some older habitat trees are identified as worthy or retention and streamside reserves are maintained.

However, without any input by non forestry stakeholders, most of the forest would be subject to the alteration processes outlined previously. The Crowther's value their adjacent forest and like many elsewhere did not wish to lose its intrinsic amenity. However, it is not an easy task to put together a case for saving it from development. Very few people have the capacity to clearly identify, document and prove the biodiversity of a forest

Lucy Crowther and the dam converted to a wetland habitat.

Joan Elliot with her collection of orchid pressings.


Speculantha atriola.

area. Even then, you need to have the dedication and perseverance to undergo the protracted fight to protect what you value. Lucy and Adrian are such people. Lucy's parents Bruce (now deceased) and Joan Elliot originally owned the property and over time blended their raising of beef cattle with nurturing and protecting their environment. For example, they converted their farm dams into wetland under the Leapfrog Program. It remains an important environmental and educational resource with schools regularly visiting. Further, Joan spent her spare time observing the flora and fauna within the coupe, especially the orchids. Over a 47 year period Joan listed and documented the existence of over 40 orchid species including an excellent collection of pressings. Included in these pressing was *Speculantha atriola* which was positively identified from pressing material. I was fortunate to meet Joan while visiting and had much pleasure examining her collection of orchid pressings.

When I arrived at the Crowther's, Lucy was keen to revisit the location site for *Speculantha atriola* as the species had not been observed for a number of years. The family had been overseas and Joan can no longer walk long distances. We walked through the property, Lucy showing me their wetland and the locations where they were setting aside sections of their land to create a land bridge across their property to allow the free movement of animals from one part of the forest to the other side. The coupe itself included a number of different habitats ranging from a small area of button grass to flat and sloping land with different ground moisture characteristics therefore differing habitats for orchids. It is considered that this area would support a high biodiversity including orchids as it has a moderately elevational range, its drainage characteristics and geology, including being transitional between the now mainly cleared flats to the east, and the steeper gully, slope and ridge systems to the west.

At the original location for *Speculantha atriola* we found only a few plants in flower. We then began searching the surrounding area to see if more could be found. As we walked more and more were located and by the time we had finished had greatly extended its known range and had found more than a hundred new plants. One thing I had not seen before was two flowering stems coming from the same plant. Two such plants were observed. Other orchids observed in flower that day were *Chiloglottis reflexa, Eriochilus cucullatus* and *Dipodium roseum*.

The next day I accompanied Peter Tonelli to photograph and create a GPS record of these orchids. This evidence would further substantiate the importance of this area as an important orchid habitat. Peter's orchid photography can be viewed in *The Orchids of Tasmania* or on the website - http://www.upclose.net.au/ where many of his excellent photographs can be viewed.

The Crowther's with the assistance of others have also listed over 75 bird species and many other animal species that are also found in this coupe. Some of these include the Masked Owl, Swift Parrot, Grey Goshawk, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Tasmanian Devil, Platypus, Spotted Quoll, Eastern Barred Bandicoot and the Giant Freshwater Crayfish.

The attempt to protect this small area by a small group of dedicated people is a microcosm of what is happening throughout Australia and the world. In this case coupe by coupe is being transformed with the biodiversity being greatly reduced. The usual response to this is the flora and fauna can be found elsewhere but the gradual reduction in habitats increases the pressures on species and in the end the common becomes rare and extinction must surely follow.

Update – Since writing this article the recent findings of *Pterostylis atriola* have been recorded and sent on as supporting evidence for the protection of this coupe. The response has been one of disappointment as the main recommendation is one of development of the site for forestry. No special protocols are to be implemented in the areas to be developed other than an ongoing monitoring.

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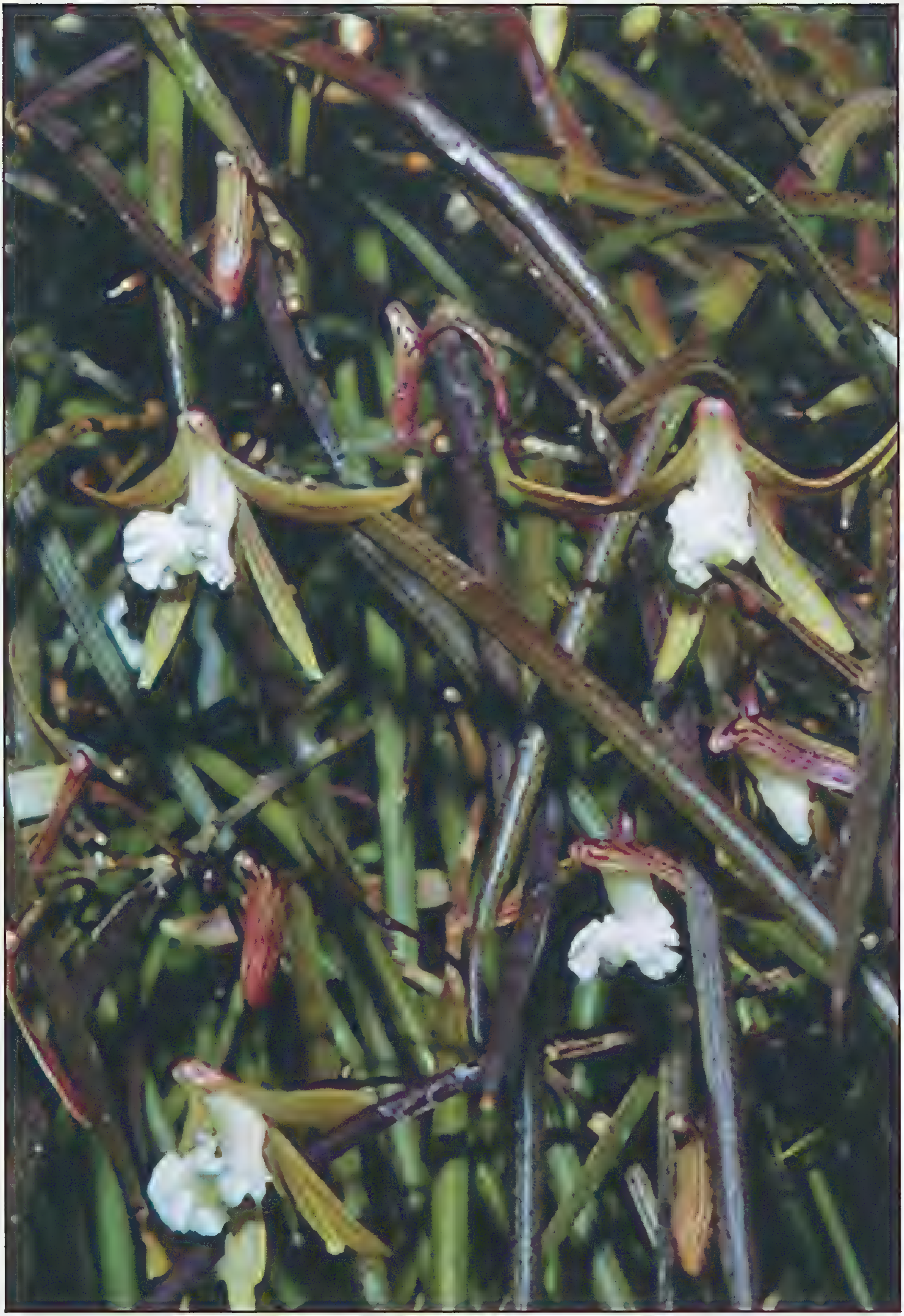
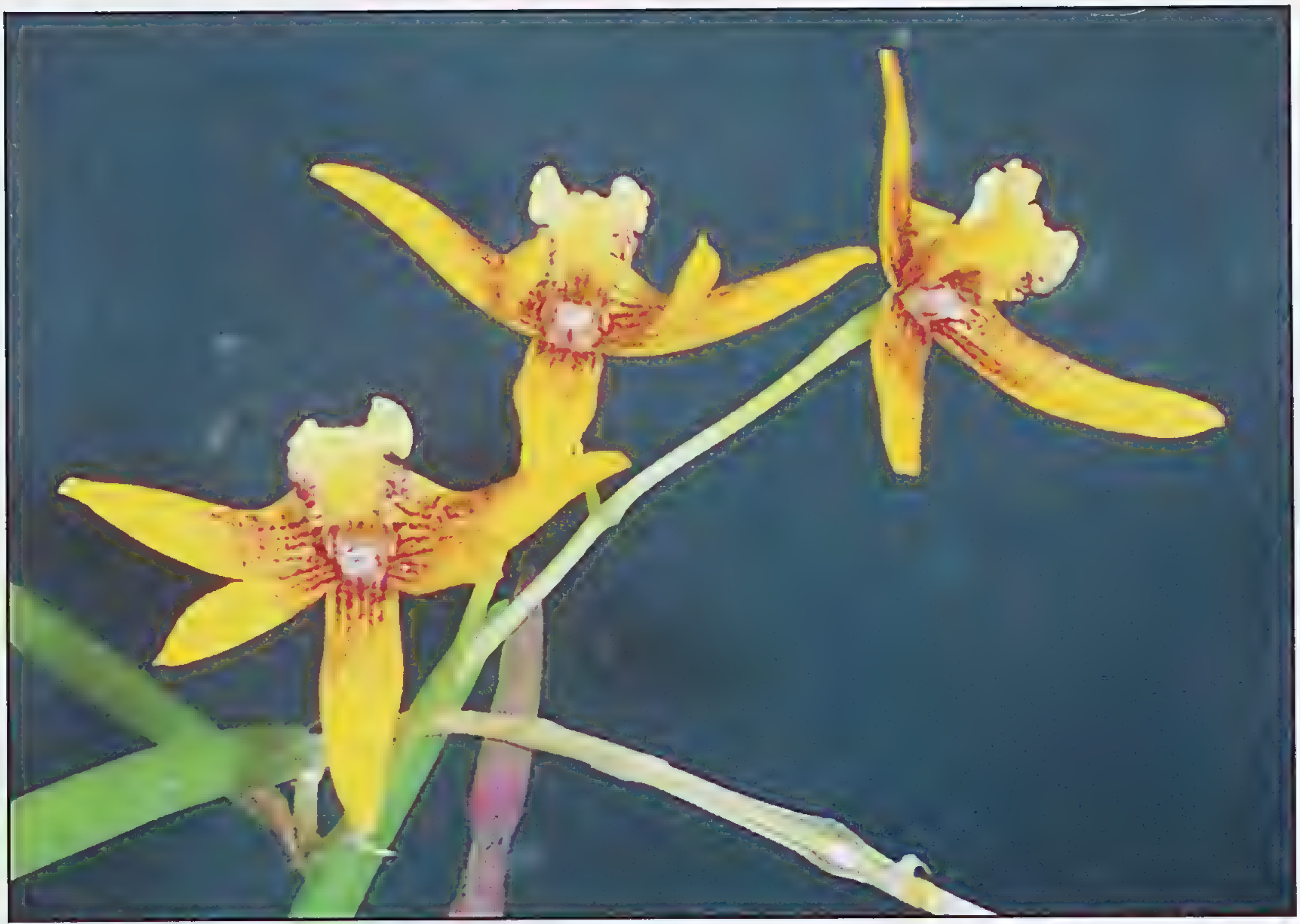
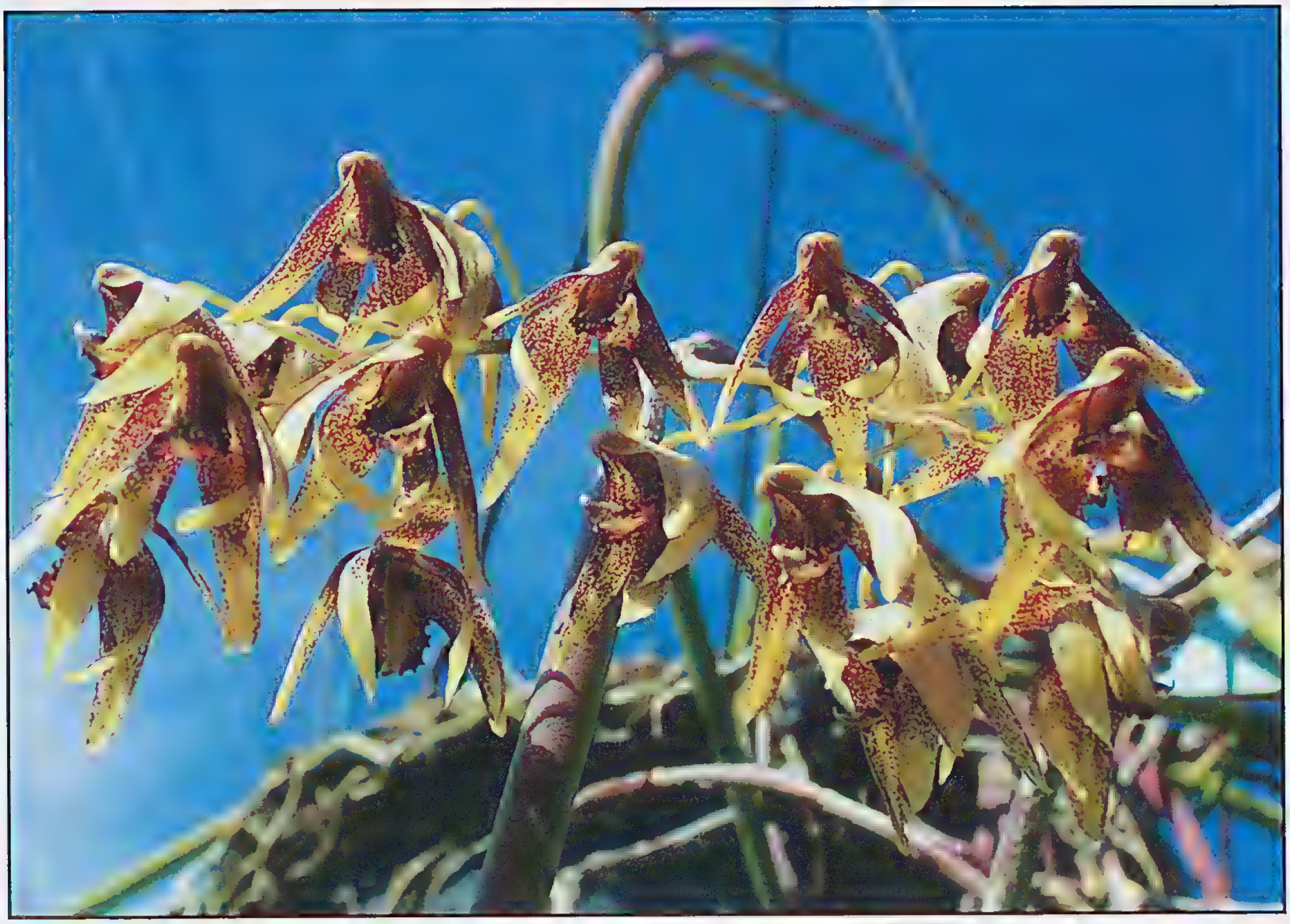


Dockrillia striolata 'Ruffles" AM-AOC.



Dockrillia Tweetas 'Red Eye'.



Dockrillia Tweetie 'Pie'.

Dockrillia striolata (Rchb.f.) Rauschert
Its past, present, future, and its use in specific hybridizing.

Brian and Phena Gerhard
DOWN UNDER NATIVE ORCHID
Specialists in Australian Native Orchid Species & Hybrids

PAST.

Dockrillia striolata, as they are now known in Australia, even though to this date the genus *Dockrillia* isn't formerly recognized by the Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S.), when registering hybrid crosses. The name comes from a Latin adjective *striate* meaning – striped or grooved – referring to the fine dark lines on the sepals and petals, it is commonly known as the Streaked Rock Orchid. This recently recognized genus *Dockrillia,* includes about 30 species, which are mainly centered in Australia with about 17 – 18, New Guinea having about 10 and New Caledonia and Vanuatu having the balance of the species. They were formerly combined in the *Dendrobium*, section *Rhizobium.* They are usually found at low to moderate altitudes, growing epiphytically or lithophytically in rainforests, open forests, often in open bright light situations, the brighter the light the redder (anthrocyanin) the growths become.

Like so many species found anywhere in the world it has not been excluded in being given several variations on what to call it over the decades. Prior to its current name *Dockrillia striolata,* in the early 1800's was named *Dendrobium teretifolium*, then to *Dendrobium milliganii* in the mid 1800. This was named after Joseph Milligan, who was in 1830 appointed surgeon to Van Dieman's land (Australia) at his company's establishment in Sydney. He was secretary 1844 to 1860 and one of the founding members of the Royal Society of Tasmania. He was a keen dedicated collector of Tasmanian plants and is commemorated by nine plants including one orchid *Dendrobium milliganii,* being named in his honour.

Currently we know it as *Dockrillia striolata.* F.G. Brieger established the name *Dockrillia* in 1981 and places the name of Alick W. Dockrill, a well respected naturalist and orchid authoritarian firmly to the fore for these 'terete leaved' species. Reichenbach initially described it from a specimen grown by a Mr. F. Strange in the greenhouses of consul Schiller in Hamburg Gardens, Germany, of all places.

When one seriously looks at a *Dendrobium speciosum,* and sitting next to it is a *Dockrillia striolata*, one doesn't have to be an orchid expert to see that *Dockrillia striolata* and its relatives needed to be recognized in their own right.

WHERE AND HOW

The species '*striolata*' would have to be one of the easiest of the terete leaved Australian native orchids to cultivate in your collection and also the smallest in stature compared to other members of the *Dockrillia* family.

In nature they generally grow as a lithophyte into large mats covering rocks and by all appearances looks like thick long grass, but very rarely grows on trees. It grows with a creeping rhizome habit and branching stems, and in most cases produces roots at the junctions of the leaves. Their general habit is for the ribbed leaves to stand erect, sometimes slightly curved and extend to around 12 cm (5 inches) in length. The leaf colour can vary dramatically from an almost deep red/purple where the plant has been growing in full sun, to deep green where the plant is denied sufficient sunlight. They rarely grow on or near the coast except on the North East Coast of Tasmania near the town named Bicheno, on granite outcrops and does have a variety so called 'Bicheno'. This comes under the blanket of *Dockrillia striolata* subsp. *chrysantha*, which is a compact grower, slightly smaller fatter leaves than other forms and has a natural cold tolerance, which can be attributed to its geographical location. Hopefully, in future breeding it will give its hybrids a similar trait. *Dockrillia striolata* continues its northward journey to a group of islands in Bass Strait, onto the eastern portion of Victoria up to the Hunter River near Newcastle in New South Wales.

Although I do have it on expert authority that near the city of Bega, on the far south coast of New South Wales, where the river is barely a kilometer from the surf at a town named Tathra it is/was growing down to within 5 metres of the waters edge. This was on a ridge with the western face covered in parts like a curtain for over 50 metres and on the top of the ridge where *Dendrobium speciosum* is growing profusely.

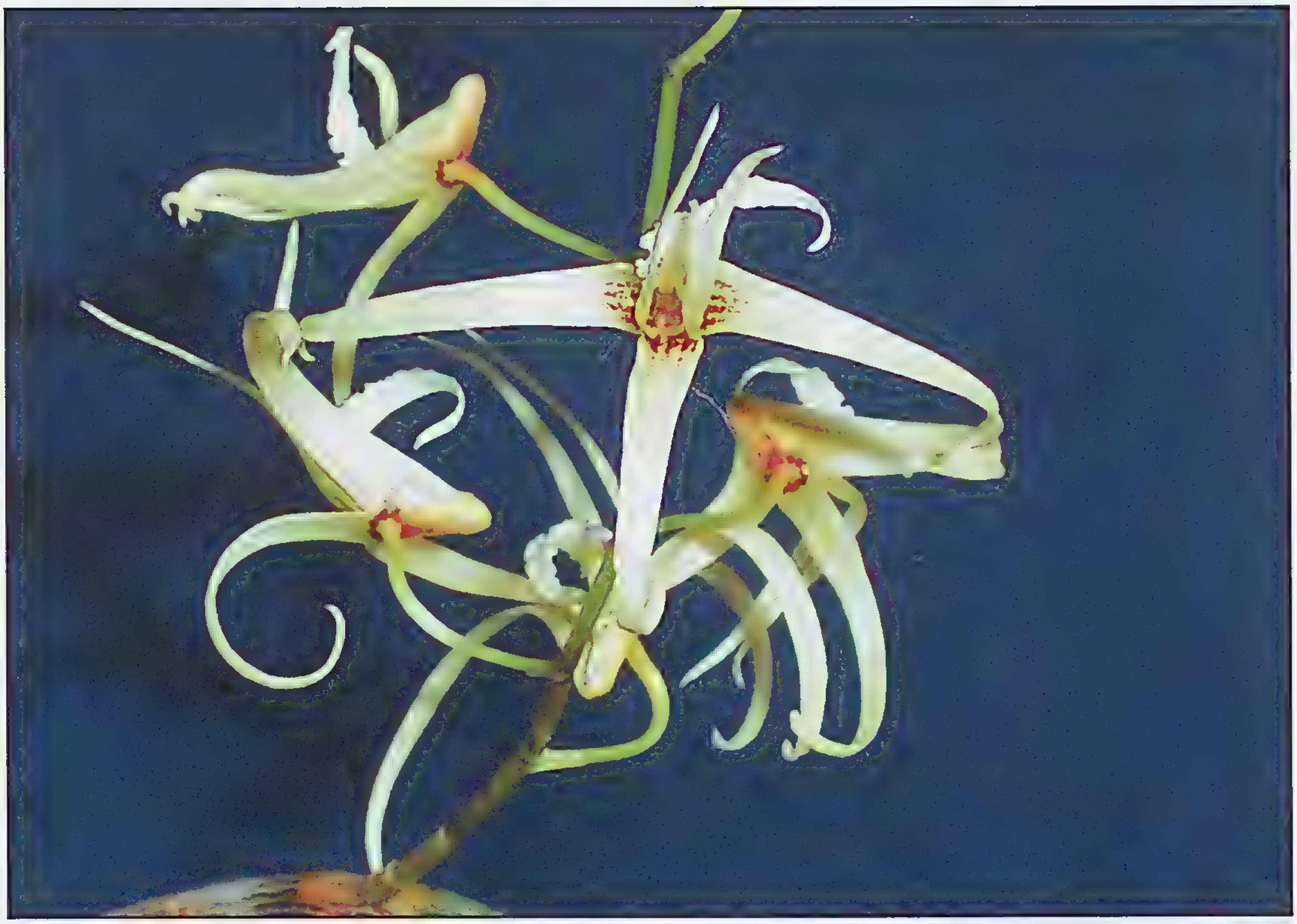
They usually flower from August to November (Spring), with a pleasant fragrance emanating from their 2.5 cm (1") blooms, and are presented in their non-resupinate position, with their characteristic ruffled/furled lip. Flowers, which range in colour from a dusty pink, green-yellow to butter-yellow, to a sort of German mustard brown and mulberry/purple lines on the segments, which in some cases are quite predominant. The lip can also have a paler shade of the mulberry/ purple colour, with one to three flowers per inflorescence. The unusual nature of the flowering habit, this being upside down, isn't because it comes from the "Land Down Under", but to ensure that the pollinators of the species have access to a dry stigmatic surface to allow the orchids to proliferate in the wild.

They can be grown on the backside of Portuguese cork slabs, hardwood slabs, tree fern slabs or in pots. If you choose to use pots which is what we prefer, use a free draining bark mix, as you tend to have a much better all round display of flowers, especially on a mature plant.

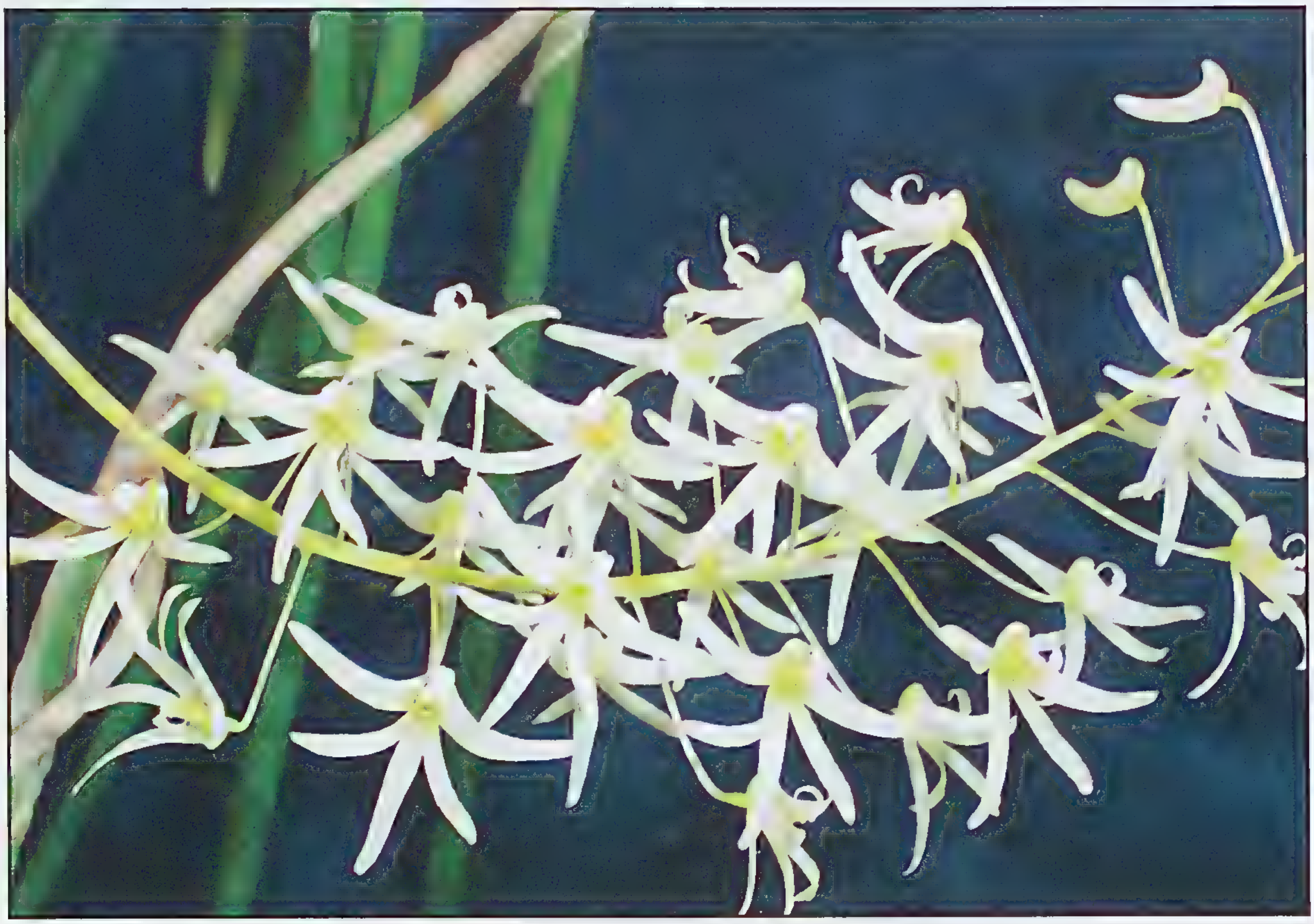
When planting on a host you must make sure that the root base is firmly tied/stapled on to it, this will help establish the plant quicker. If you choose to mount it, you will need to water much more often, which is another reason why we prefer growing them in pots. They can cope with a temperature range from 1°C to 40°C plus, that's when the potted plants survive It is also less stressful on the plant when they need to be repotted, rather than re-mounting if the host has decayed or deteriorated.

When feeding these beauties we recommend the same fertilizer as the rest of our Aussie natives, which is low in nitrogen, low in phosphorus and high in potassium type food. The type we use has an NPK of 8: 5: 25. or can come under the term of 'BLOSSOM BOOSTER'. If you aren't able to obtain a low nitrogen fertilizer, then a fertilizer with a low percentage content of urea in the nitrogenous part of the equation. Fertilizer is applied at a rate of one gram per 10 litres (2.5 gallons) every two to three weeks, all year round, yes all year round. To explain, if you locate a fertilizer with an N (nitrogen) rating of 15 and the percentage of urea was 8% in the overall mix of things, that would be ok, but if it was 15% urea, no, no, look for another. I have it on advice that there is a fertiliser in America that should be more than acceptable, 10 - 20 - 30, which equates to 10 - 9 - 25 here in Australia.

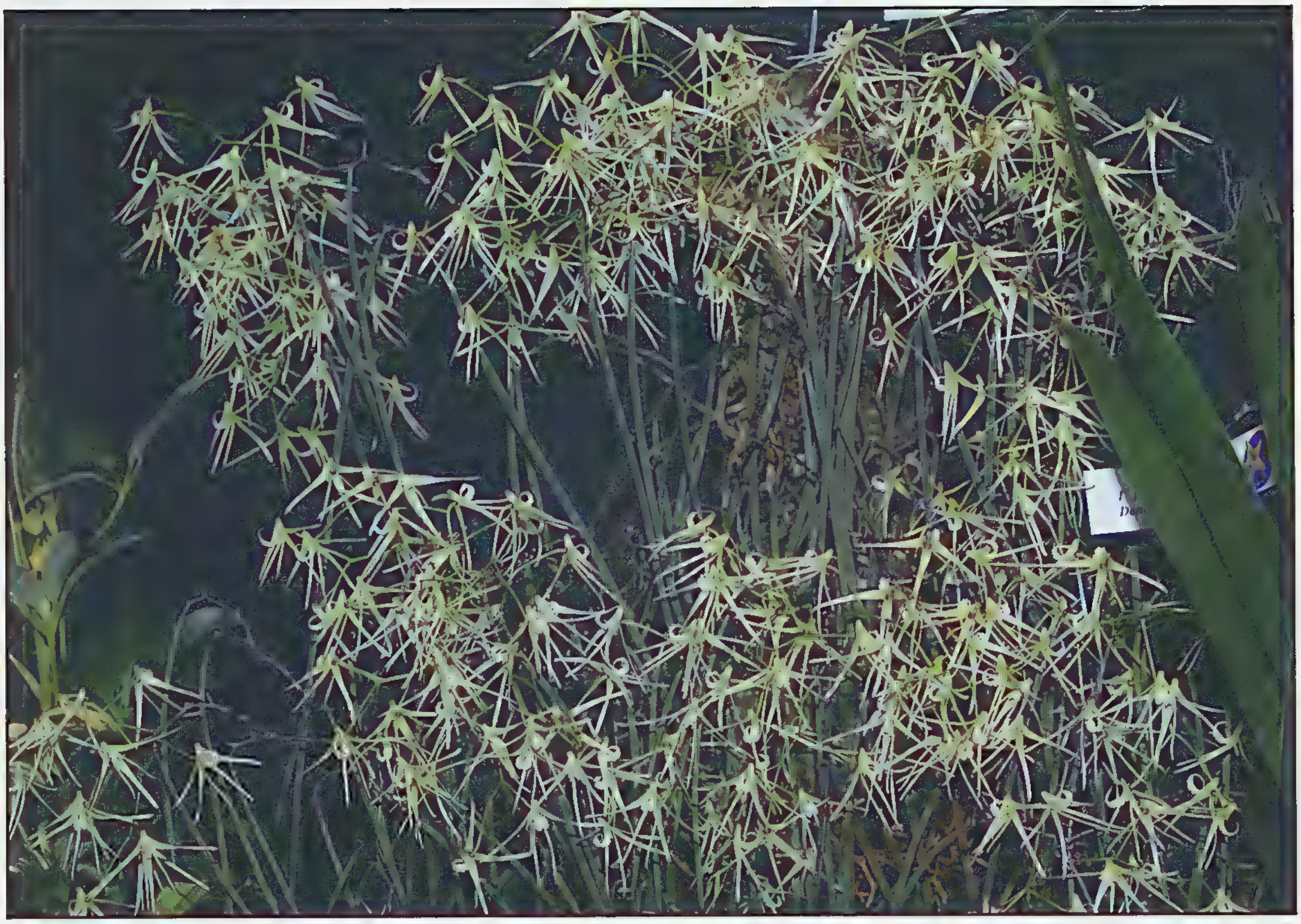
For such an easy growing species that has been around for as long as it has, it has only had twelve (12) first generation hybrids and six (6) second generation being placed on the register at R.H.S. (as Dendrobiums). The oldest being given the name *Dockrillia* Rosemary Jupp 1975, which is a crossing with a *Dockrillia teretifolium*, 7 years later *Dockrillia* Julie Skillicorn hit the R.H.S. register, a crossing with *D. tenuissimum* (*mortii*). *Dockrillia* Stephen followed suit in 1983 in a crossing with *Dockrillia beckleri* and then *Dockrillia* Duffy in 1984 with *Dockrillia pugioniforme*, although the natural hybrid was found in nature a long time before. *Dockrillia* Duffy



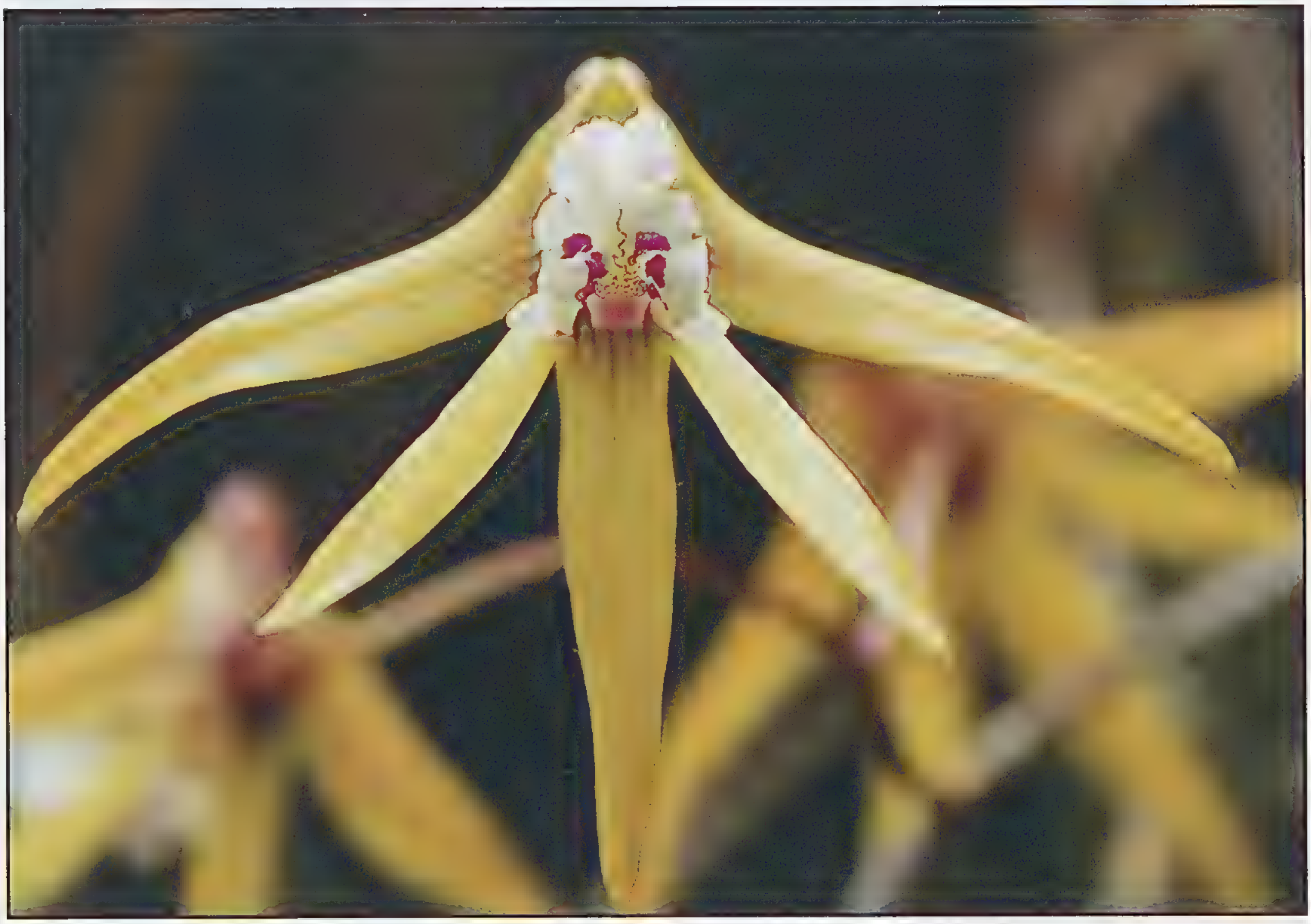
Dockrillia fasiculata



Dockrillia affin. *flagellum.*



Dockrillia teretifolia.



Dockrillia teretifolia X *D. pugioniforme.*

in fact was reportedly found in nature in the Watagan Mountains (NSW) in 1972, and has been found a number of times in several locations from as far south as Nowra (NSW) to the Hunter Valley (NSW) prior to and after its R.H.S. registration in 1984.

PRESENT

We then come to what we feel is a very unique member of the *Dockrillia* family, *Dockrillia fuliginosa*. This orchid will have a profound impact on breeding well into this new millennium. Initially found in Kaisipi swamp 27 km (17 miles) north of Waitarpi in central province of Papua New Guinea by Phil Spence in 1983. The plant was described by Clements and Jones in 1995 from that original collection. Its name comes from the Latin adjective *fuliginos*, meaning - sooty, as you can see it has dark purplish / black blooms, to an almost deep maroon, sepals and petals.

Plants of *Dockrillia fuliginosa* were being used in several parts of Australia in breeding programs in the 1980's. Unfortunately it was then given the misnomer of *Dendrobium teretifolium* 'Black Pam', and those who used it in hybridizing, like Neil Finch, Col Brandon and Phil Spence referred to it as, *Dendrobium teretifolium* 'Black Pam'.

'Black Pam' usually grows epiphytically on *Casuarina* trees on the edges of, and in open swampland and can form large colonies, but unlike *Dockrillia striolata* doesn't normally produce aerial roots at the junction of their almost 25 cm (10 inch) long leaves (pencils). We grow ours in pots with mix of 6 parts medium bark, 2 part fine bark plus 1 part of 10 mm river pebbles, the same mix we use for our *Dockrillia striolata*, and also hang them up as well, to obtain maximum light. Their flowering habit is unusual as the segments don't fully open. This, we would suggest would be to keep the "powder" dry for their pollinator. There would be nothing worse than a wet stigmatic surface to discourage an enthusiastic pollinator. Flower heads carry 3 to 6 musty fragranced dark purplish/black blooms, to an almost deep maroon, with a mottling of a lighter colour over the segments. Another unusual fact is that it can flower 2–3 times in 12 months, which is something *Dockrillia striolata* doesn't have in its flowering habit.

In hybridizing, there hasn't been a consistent result with colour, some flowers have what I call a "spray can" effect of the purplish/maroon colour of *Dockrillia fuliginosa* over the segments, but in varying levels of intensity. Others have totally different colours, like sometimes the "spray can" has run out of paint, but in the final upshot of things the colour combinations are so very differently pleasing. That's the joy of growing hybrids, as Forrest Gump stated, "it's like that box of chocolates, you never know what you are going to get".

Some of these "Chocolates" have been absolutely astounding, with the likes of Dockrillia's such as, Granma (Tweetie x Sylvester), Tweetas (Tweetie x *striolata* 'Tasmanian Gold'), Butch (Goose Bumps x Sylvester), Sundance (Goose Bumps x *fairfaxii* 'Aureum'), Etta Place (Gillieston Glow x *teretifolia*), Grey Ghost (*striolata* 'Neville' x Rosemary Jupp) and finally Oliver Jack 'Gerard' (Jiggi x *striolata* 'Neville') to name but a few, with the latter three all being awarded HCC/AOC.

FUTURE

Looking to the future we do have some new and exciting crosses, at the moment over a dozen in our laboratory for future release. We do expect some outstanding colour combinations and larger flowers by breeding with the likes of *Dockrillia fairfaxii*, *D*. Virginia Jupp, *D*. Tweetie, *D*. Oliver Jack 'Gerard' HCC/AOC/ANOS, *D*. Grey Ghost AM/AOC, *D*. *fasciculatum* and *D*. XGrimesii. In addition we are also endeavoring to increase the flower count by the use of *Dockrillia* affin. *flagellum,* another of the cooler growing, yet to be described Papua New Guinea species, which produces 20 plus almost pure white blooms that reflex and also flowers twice in 12 months. The characteristic frequent flowering of ‘Black Pam’ does pass that trait onto some of the hybrids we have bred. There certainly is in my opinion a real future for these easy growing, pleasant to the eye *Dockrillia* Hybrids, and as they perform much better hanging up, this of course leaves more space on the benches for other Aussie Native species and hybrids.

IN SUMMARY, WHAT THEY NEED IS AS FOLLOWS: -
A good well sun light morning spot, either hanging in your shade/glass house (60% shadecloth), a deciduous tree or on the fence, as long as they are receiving that nice morning warming sun, ENE position and plenty of air movement, a key factor with all Orchids.

Watering is also a key to a rewarding result with these Hybrids or species. Summer, every two to three days, always in the morning or if it has been extremely hot early evening when the sun has lost the greater majority of its intensity. You need the water to dissipate off the leaves, before the sun really reaches its peak, same as Dendrobiums, thus preventing Phyto – Toxic spotting on the leaves.

Rule of thumb for SUMMER ‘WHEN THEY NEED IT”. Whilst Winter, which is usually cold and sometimes very wet, every 5 to 7 days ALWAYS in the morning, or Rule of thumb for WINTER ‘IF THEY NEED IT’, never in the afternoon or evening, cold wet feet is not a recipe for longevity in these, or any Aussie Native Orchids for that matter. If in doubt about watering in Winter, DON’T, go and have a cup of tea/coffee, or some other libation depending on your preference. Think about doing it tomorrow.

The feeding program I feel I have covered should be adopted on a regular basis, but to add a little something extra in addition to the chemical fertiliser, we use a fish/seaweed based liquid tonic, used as per manufacturers recommended levels every month, thus giving your Dockrillias a little variation in their diet, as we humans vary ours, with Beef, Chicken or Fish. Once they do establish they do grow relatively quickly into a specimen. One thing you must remember, as with other Aussie Natives, DO NOT overpot your Dockrillias.

I hope you enjoy the few pictures that we will place before you as examples of the results of our breeding program so far, and it has inspired you to consider adding one or two of these new, exciting, easy to grow, bench saving Dockrillias to your collections.

The road has just begun to be established, so come and join us down that road to unusual shapes, colours and sizes that will be, we feel, very rewarding.

Brian & Phena Gerhard.
DUNO

References. *Dendrobium and its Relatives* – Lavarack, Harris & Stocker.

Wildcatt – the Breeding Register, and to our friend Bill Dobson for technical support and computer expertise.

-oOo-

N.B. Photos supplied with this article were taken by Brian Gerhard and Bill Dobson.

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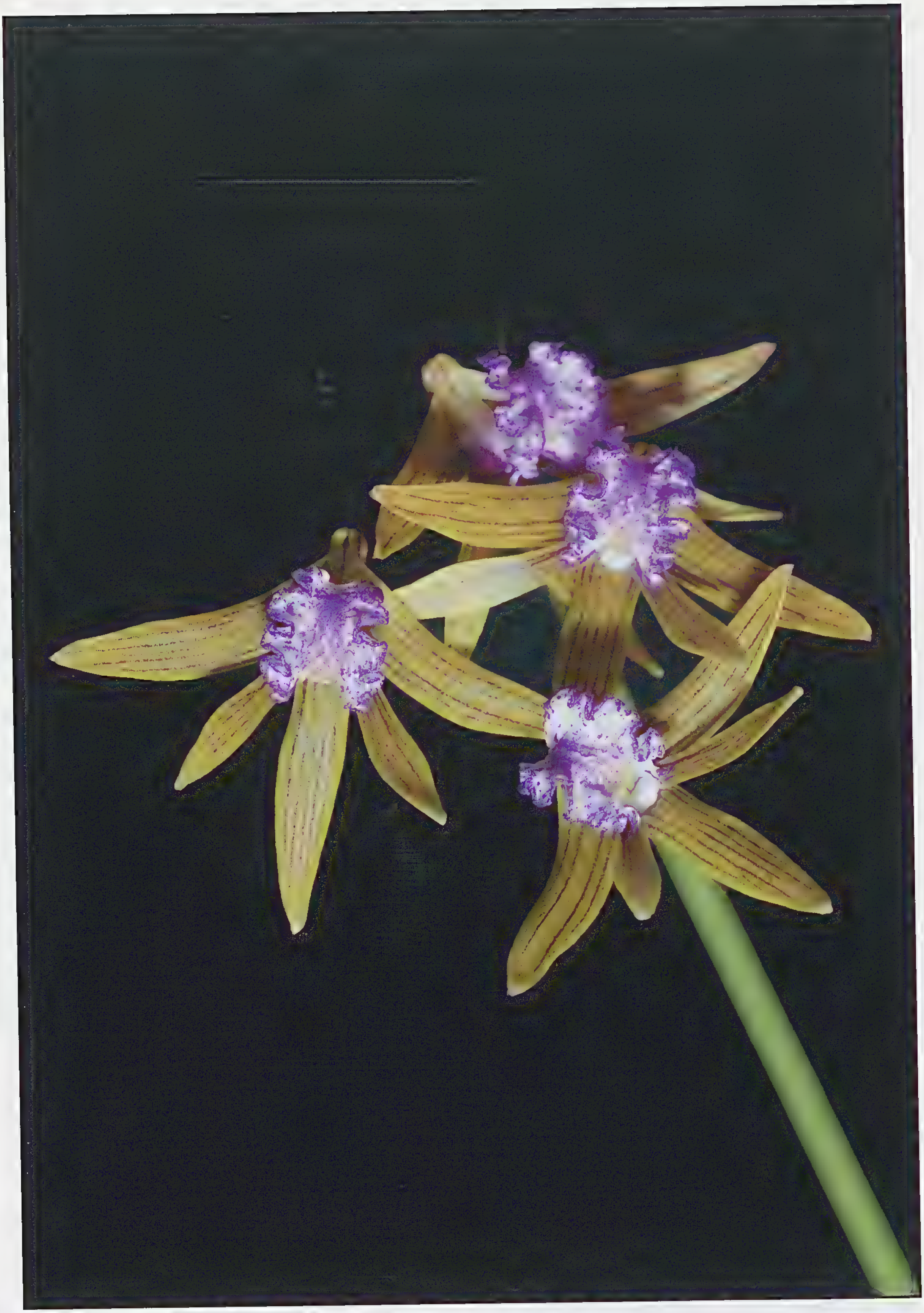

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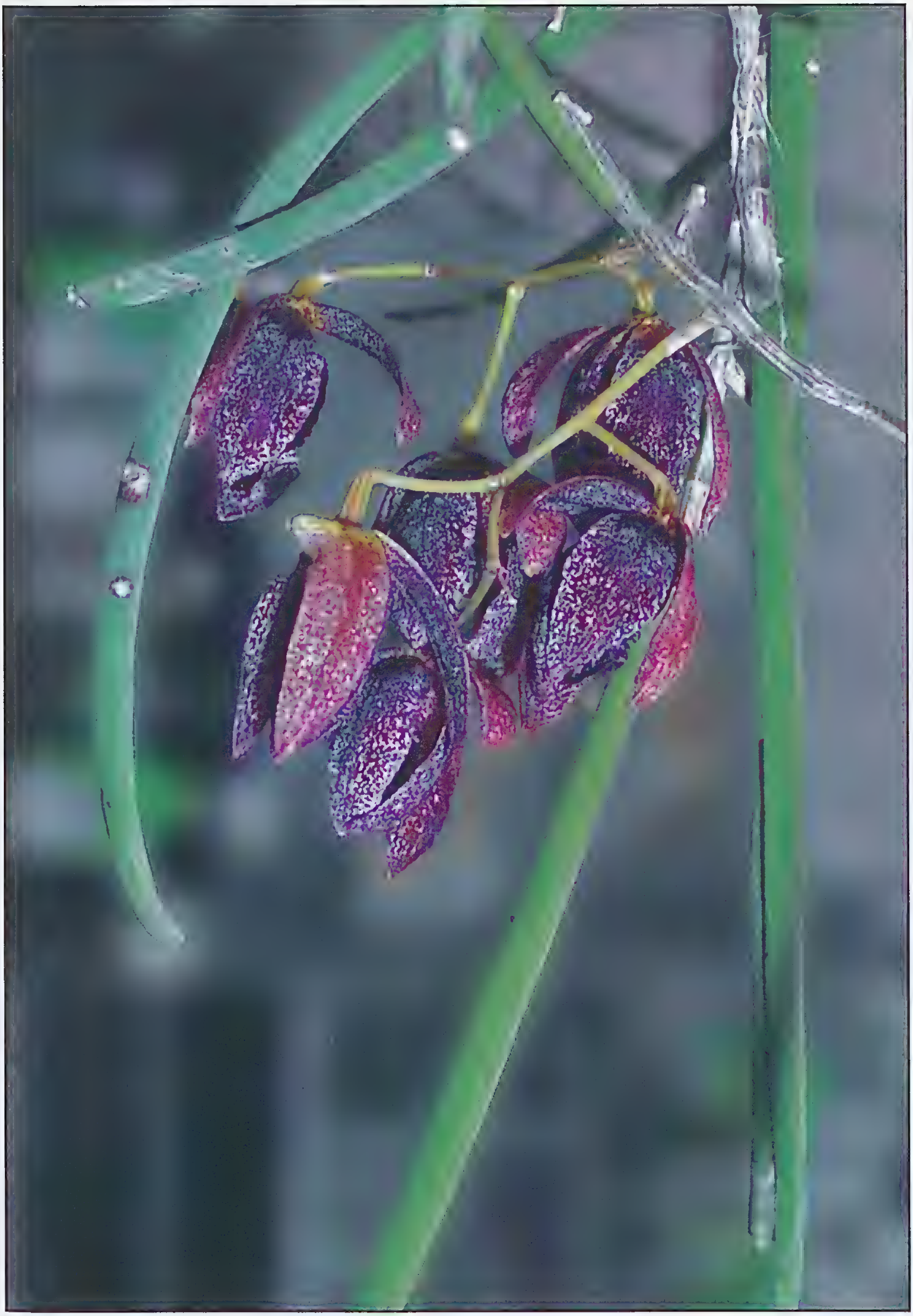

Dockrillia fuliginosa

Two threatened new species of *Speculantha* (Orchidaceae) from south-eastern Australia.

David L. Jones, Kalaru, NSW, 2550

Abstract

Speculantha ventricosa and *S. glyphida* from south-eastern Australia, both localized endemics and highly threatened, are described as new.

Key Words

Orchidaceae, *Speculantha ventricosa*, *Speculantha glyphida*, new species, threatened flora, New South Wales, Australian flora.

Introduction

A revision of *Speculantha* is nearly complete but the only known populations of one species, described below as *S. ventricosa*, are threatened by proposed residential developments and its conservation may be aided by urgent description of the species (John Briggs pers. comm.). Another rare species which has many similarities with *S. ventricosa* and can be considered to be a sister taxon, is included in the paper. Both species are described here as new.

Materials and Methods

Descriptions of taxa were made from fresh specimens. Dried specimens of *Speculantha* were examined from the following herbaria; AD, BRI, CANB, CBG, HO, MEL and NSW. Unless otherwise indicated, all types of *Speculantha* relevant to this study (or photographs thereof), and collections cited, have been seen by me.

Taxonomy

1. *Speculantha ventricosa* D.L.Jones, ***sp. nov.***; affinis *S. parviflorae* (R.Br.) D.L.Jones & M.A.Clem., sed floribus multo angustioribus, nitidis; apice galeam claro castaneo; synsepalo latissimo basi, angustanti distaliter, sinu profunde inciso; labello late oblongo-elliptico, rufuscenti et albo, differt. Quoque *S. glyphidae* D.L.Jones, sed labello majore, extus visibili, differt.

Type: New South Wales. Nebraska Road, off Waterpark Road, St Georges Basin, 23 April 2004, *D.L.Jones 19070 & B.E.Jones* (holo CANB 661325; iso NSW).

Description: Glabrous, tuberous, terrestrial *herb*. *Plants* 8-30 cm tall, not elongating in fruit. *Rosettes* just emerging at anthesis, 1-2, borne on lateral growths from the base of the scape or on sterile plants. *Rosette leaves* spreading, 4-9 per rosette; lamina ovate to sagittate, 3-12 mm long, 3-6 mm wide, dull green; margins entire; apex acute to apiculate; petioles 3-8 mm long, very slender, narrowly winged. *Scape* slender, wiry, 1-6-flowered. *Sterile bracts* closely sheathing or spreading and foliose, 3-5, ovate-lanceolate, 5-12 mm long, 2-5 mm wide, acuminate. *Fertile bracts* closely sheathing, ovate, 3-6 mm long, 2-4 mm wide, acuminate. *Flowers* well spaced, 1-3 open at once, 10-13 mm long, 4.5-5.5 mm wide, green and white towards the base, bright red-brown distally, somewhat shiny, swollen at the base and narrowing distally; galea strongly inflated at base, erect before curving forwards in a semi-circle; petals longer than the dorsal sepal, smooth (non-scabrous). *Dorsal sepal* broadly ovate-lanceolate when flattened, 13-16 mm long, 5-8 mm wide, inflated at the base then tapered to apex, boldly striped, acute to apiculate, smooth. *Lateral sepals* erect, closely embracing the galea; sinus curved smoothly inwards, the area below bulging when viewed from the side, deeply notched at the centre, margins sloping obliquely upwards; conjoined part 6-8 mm long, 5-7 mm wide, narrowed to 2 mm wide at the base; free points erect, 2.5-3.5 mm long, linear-tapered, just reaching above the top of the galea. *Petals* broadly oblong, 10-13 mm long, 2.5-3 mm wide, strongly falcate, dark brown striped with white, acute; flange c. 1 mm across, broadly deltate, obtuse. *Labellum* erect, the tip visible through sinus in the set position, curved forwards near apex, dark red-brown and white. *Labellum lamina* broadly oblong-elliptical, 4.5-5 mm long, 2-2.3 mm wide, obtuse; basal appendage decurved, c. 1.3 mm long, broadest at the base; apex trifid, erect. *Callus* a raised, central, dark red brown ridge c. 0.3 mm across. *Column* 6-8 mm long, curved away from the ovary at 50° at the base then erect, red brown and white. *Column wings* c. 2.4 mm long; basal lobe broadly deltate, c. 1 mm long, c. 0.7 mm wide, brown, at an angle 50°; apex broadly obtuse; inner margins adorned sparsely with short, white cilia; mid-section c. 1 mm long, brown; apical lobe obliquely erect or curved, filiform, c. 0.7 mm long, acute. *Anther* c. 1.3 mm long, obtuse. *Pollinia* linear, c. 1.2 mm long, yellow, mealy. *Stigma* situated below the middle, broadly cordate, c. 2.2 mm long, c. 2.2 mm wide, prominently raised. *Capsules* erect, obovoid to ellipsoid, 9-12 mm long, 3-4 mm wide. **Fig. 1**.

Distribution and ecology: Known only from two sites in south-eastern NSW, the type locality in St Georges Basin and another at Sussex Inlet, both localities south of Nowra and only about 8 km apart. Further searching is required to determine if the species is more widespread than this. It grows in open areas within tall forest dominated by *Corymbia gummifera*, *Eucalyptus pilularis* and *E. piperita* with a dense, heathy understorey. The soil at the type site is a moisture-retentive grey silty loam. Plants also colonise disturbed sites such as road verges. Flowering is enhanced by good autumn rains and probably also in the second and third years after a burn. Alt. c. 30-40 m. Flowering; March to May.

Recognition: Characterised by late summer-winter flowering period; rosettes appearing late in anthesis or after anthesis; dull green rosette leaves (to 12 x 6 mm); tall wiry scape; sheathing or foliose sterile bracts; 1-6-flowered inflorescence; well-spaced, plump, shiny flowers, 10-13 x 4.5-5.5 mm, green and white towards the base, bright red-brown distally, widest at the base and narrowing distally; smooth (non-scabrous) dorsal sepal; sinus curved inwards, deeply vee-ed when viewed from the front, the area below bulging when viewed from the side; linear free points just reaching above the top of the galea; and, a broadly oblong-elliptical, dark red-brown and white labellum, 4.5-5 x 2-2.3 mm, the tip visible from the exterior in the set position.

Similar species: A very distinctive species with obscure relationships. *Speculantha glyphida* from the vicinity of Tallong has similarly sized and similarly coloured flowers also with a smooth (non-scabrous) dorsal sepal, but its labellum is smaller and does not protrude through the sinus in the set position. Most other species with similar flowers can be readily distinguished from *S. ventricosa* by the distinctly scabrous dorsal sepal, flat or horizontal sinus and the labellum not visible from the exterior of the flower in any position.

Conservation status: Highly restricted, poorly known and not conserved; the only known sites are threatened by urbanization; suggest Critically Endangered (IUCN 2001).

Etymology: The Latin *ventricosus*, potbellied, bulging, in reference to the flower shape when viewed from the front.

Other specimens: NEW SOUTH WALES: Nebraska Road, off Waterpark Road, St Georges Basin, 29 Apr. 2000, *D.L.Jones 17190* (CANB); *ibid*, 16 Apr. 2005, *D.L.Jones 19207 & G.Brockman* (CANB).

2. *Speculantha glyphida* D.L.Jones, ***sp. nov.***; affinis *S. parviflorae* (R.Br.) D.L.Jones & M.A.Clem., sed floribus multo majoribus, atrobrunneis versus apicem; sinu profundo; punctis liberis sepalinis lateralis linearibus, galea super prominenti; labello majore, atrobrunneo et albo, differt. Quoque *S. ventricosae* D.L.Jones sed floribus atratiore, synsepalo latissimo prope basem; labello apice extus visibili, differt.

Type: New South Wales. Tallong Park Reserve, 14 March 2001, *D.L.Jones 17840 & R.G.Tunstall* (holo CANB).

Description: Glabrous, tuberous, terrestrial *herb*. *Plants* 8-35 cm tall, not elongating in fruit. *Rosettes* absent at anthesis, 1-2, borne on lateral growths from the base of the scape or on sterile plants. *Rosette leaves* spreading, 3-6 per rosette; lamina ovate to sagittate, 3-12 mm long, 3-6 mm wide, dull green; margins entire; apex acute to apiculate; petioles 3-8 mm long, very slender, narrowly winged. *Scape* slender, relatively sturdy, wiry, 1-7-flowered. *Sterile bracts* closely sheathing, 3-5, ovate-lanceolate, 5-12 mm long, 2-4 mm wide, acuminate. *Fertile bracts* closely sheathing, ovate, 3-10 mm long, 2-4 mm wide, acuminate. *Pedicels* 1-4 mm long, slender. *Ovaries* obovoid, 7-10 mm long, smooth. *Flowers* moderately crowded, 1-3 open at once, 10-13 mm long, 4.5-5 mm wide, green and white towards the base, dark brown to blackish brown distally, somewhat shiny, swollen towards the middle; galea inflated at base, erect before curving forwards in an elongate semi-circle; dorsal sepal and petals of similar length, smooth (non-scabrous). *Dorsal sepal* ovate-lanceolate when flattened, 16-18 mm long, 5-8 mm wide, inflated at the base then tapered to apex, boldly striped, acute to apiculate, smooth. *Lateral sepals* erect, closely embracing the galea; sinus curved smoothly inwards, the area below bulging when viewed from the side, deeply notched at the centre, margins sloping obliquely upwards; conjoined part 7-9 mm long, 5-7 mm wide, narrowed to 2 mm wide at the base; free points erect, 2-2.5 mm long, linear-tapered, just reaching above the top of the galea. *Petals* broadly oblong, 10-13 mm long, 2.5-3 mm wide, falcate, dark brown striped with white, acute; flange c. 1 mm across, broadly deltate, obtuse. *Labellum* erect, the tip not visible through sinus in any position, curved forwards near the apex, dark brown and white. *Labellum lamina* narrowly obovate-elliptical, 4.5-5.5 mm long, 1.8-2.2 mm wide, subacute; basal appendage decurved, c. 1.5 mm long, broadest at the base; apex trifid, erect. *Callus* a raised, central, dark red brown ridge c. 0.3 mm across. *Column* 6-7.5 mm long, curved away from the ovary at 50° at the base then erect, brown and white. *Column wings* c. 2 mm long; basal lobe broadly deltate, c. 0.6 mm long, c. 0.6 mm wide, brown, at an angle of 80°; apex broadly obtuse; inner margins adorned sparsely with short, white cilia; mid-section c. 1.2 mm long, brown; apical lobe obliquely erect, filiform, c. 0.8 mm long, acute. *Anther* c. 1.2 mm long, obtuse. *Pollinia* linear, c. 1.2 mm long, yellow, mealy. *Stigma* situated below the middle, obovate-cordate, c. 2.8 mm long, c. 1.5 mm wide, prominently raised. *Capsules* erect, obovoid to ellipsoid, 9-12 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, on pedicels to 7 mm long. **Fig. 2**.

Distribution and ecology: Known only from the vicinity of the type locality in Tallong, but probably more widespread than this. It grows in open areas of heathy forest dominated by *Kunzea parvifolia*, on or near sheets of sandstone and sandstone outcrops. The surrounding forest is relatively stunted and sparse with a sparse to relatively dense understorey. The soil ranges from a grey sandy loam to stony skeletal loam. Alt. c. 650 m. Flowering; February to April.

Recognition: Characterized by summer-autumn flowering period; rosettes appearing late in anthesis or after anthesis; dull green rosette leaves (to 12 x 6 mm); tall, sturdy scape; sheathing sterile bracts; 1-7-flowered inflorescence; moderately crowded, boldly striped, plump flowers, 10-13 x 4.5-5 mm, green and white towards the base, dark brown to blackish brown distally, somewhat shiny, swollen towards the middle; smooth (non-scabrous) dorsal sepal; sinus curved inwards, deeply vee-ed when viewed from the front, the area below bulging prominently when viewed from the side; filiform free points that extend above the top of the galea; and, a narrowly obovate-elliptical, dark brown and white labellum, 4.5-5.5 x 1.8-2.2 mm, the tip not visible from the exterior in any position.

Similar species: *Speculantha ventricosa* from St Georges Basin has similarly sized but lighter coloured flowers also with a smooth (non-scabrous) dorsal sepal, but its flowers are broadest at the base and narrow distally and its broadly elliptical labellum protrudes above the sinus in the set position. Most other species with similar flowers can be readily distinguished from *S. glyphida* by the distinctly scabrous dorsal sepal and a flat or horizontal sinus.

Notes: This species was brought to my attention by the late Ron Tunstall. *Speculantha glyphida* grows sympatrically with *S. parviflora* but natural hybrids are unknown. The flowers have a strong semen-like scent.

Conservation status: Highly restricted, poorly known and not conserved; the only known site is in a reserve of uncertain status; much of the natural habitat around Tallong has been alienated by development in the last 10-15 years; similar habitat exists east of the known population, but the species has not been located there after limited searching by the author; suggest 2EK by the criteria of Briggs & Leigh (1996).

Etymology: The Greek *glyphidos*, notched or grooved like that on an arrow, in reference to the distinctly notched sinus when viewed from the front.

Other specimens: NEW SOUTH WALES: Crown land near Santa Sabina College, Tallong, 14 Mar. 2001, *D.L.Jones 17850 & R.G.Tunstall* (CANB); Tallong Park Reserve, 14 Mar. 2001, *D.L.Jones 17839 & R.G.Tunstall* (CANB).

Acknowledgements

I thank Laurie Adams for the Latin diagnoses, Emma Clifton, Karina Richards and Marion Garratt for technical assistance, and Peter Eygelshoven for scanning the drawings. I also thank the late Ron Tunstall for numerous in depth discussions about *Speculantha* and Sandie Jones for help with *S. ventricosa*. John Briggs and David Coombes provided locality details for the second population of *Speculantha ventricosa*. The directors of AD, BRI, CANB, HO, MEL, NSW are thanked for providing access to specimens.

References

Briggs, J.D. & Leigh, J.H. (1996). *Rare or Threatened Australian Plants*, Revised Edition, CSIRO and Australian Nature Conservation Agency.

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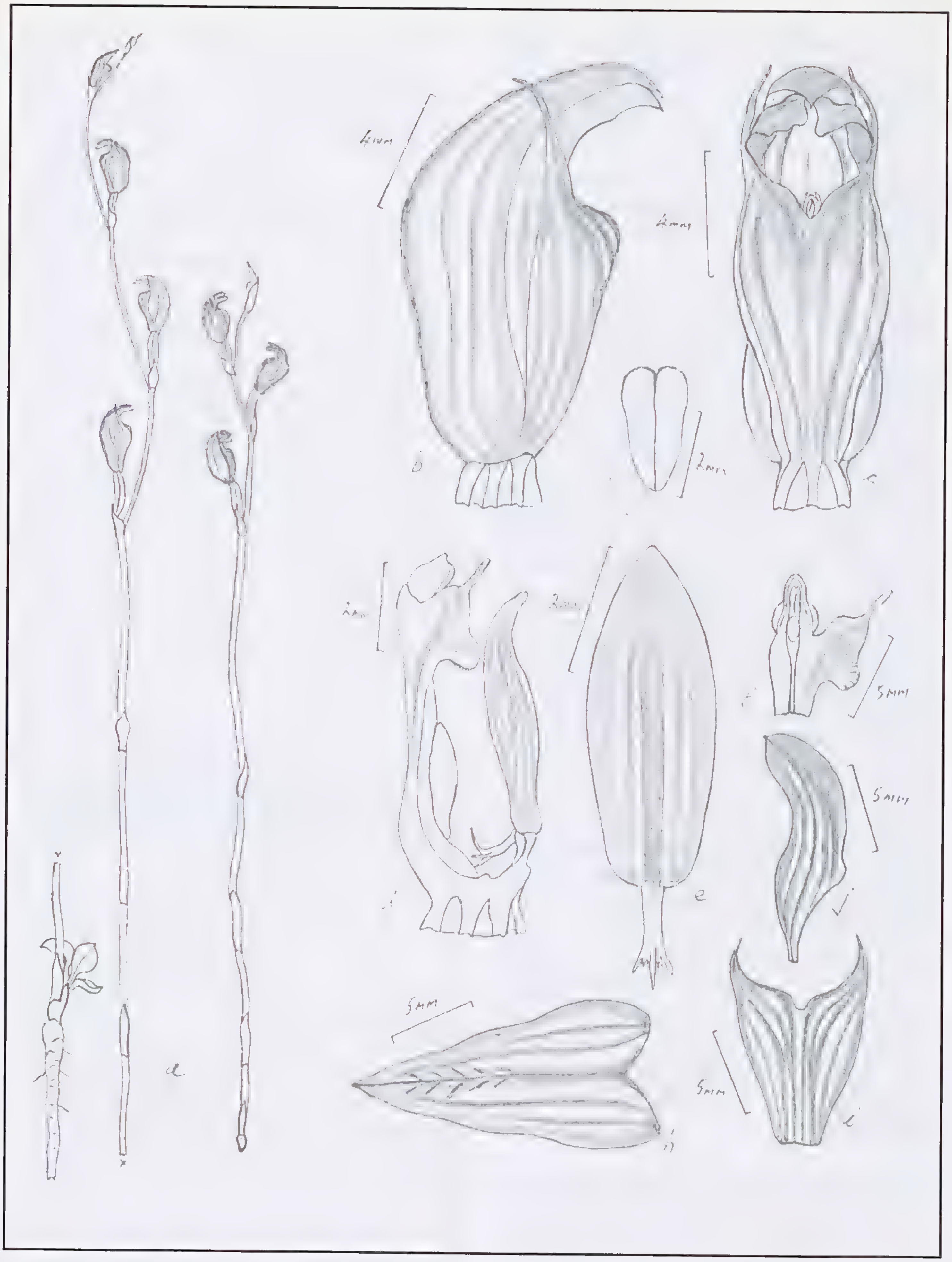

Fig. 1. ***Speculantha ventricosa*, St Georges Basin, DLJ 17190**. a. flowering plants and rosette; b. flower from side; c. flower from front; d. column and labellum from side; e. labellum from above, flattened; f. column apex, anterior view, one wing removed; g. stigma; h. pollinium; i. dorsal sepal; j. synsepalum; k. petal.

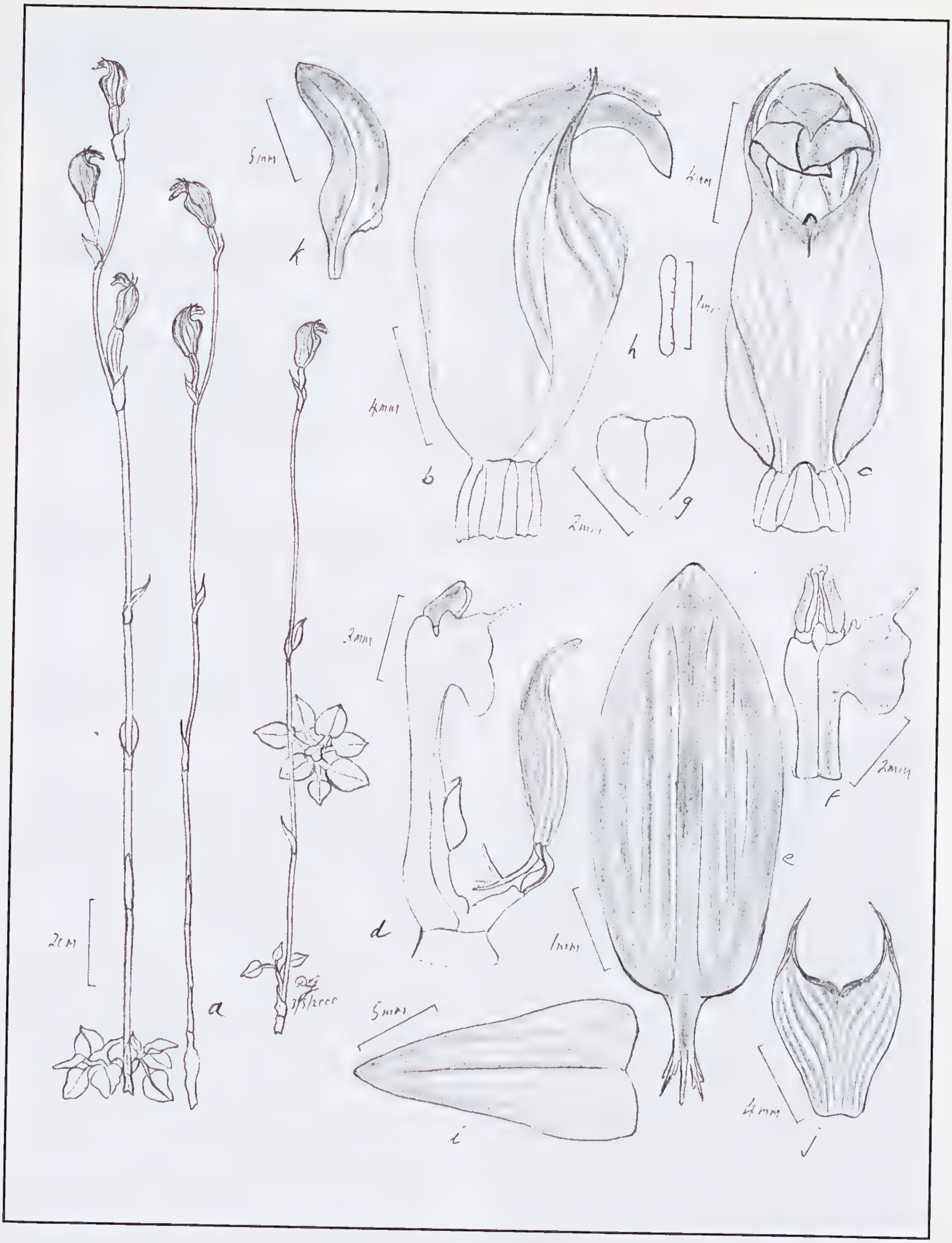

Fig. 2. ***Speculantha glyphida*, Tallong, DLJ 17840** (drawn from type). a. flowering plants; b. flower from side; c. flower from front; d. column and labellum from side; e. labellum from above, flattened; f. column apex, anterior view, one wing removed; g. stigma; h. dorsal sepal; i. synsepalum; j. petal.

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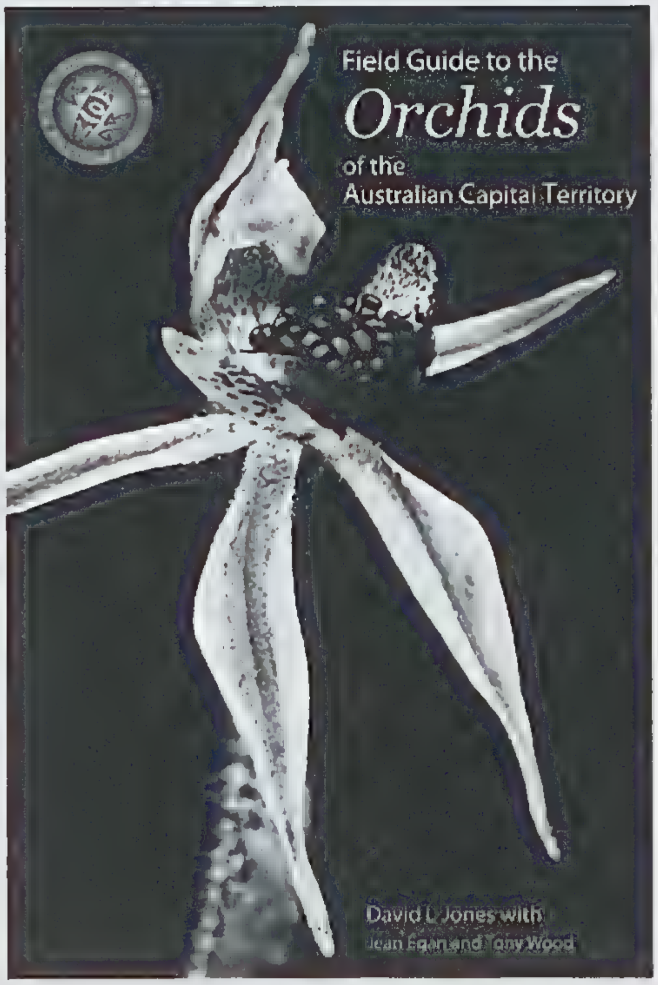

Show dates for 2008.

The Devonport Orhcid Society Spring Show

Venue: Maidstone Park Memorial Hall
Spreyton
Dates 3rd of October 2pm- 5.30pm
4th October 9am - 5.30pm
and 5th October 9am -4.30pm
contact 64283226

Sarcochilus Show

Venue: Maidstone Park Memorial Hall
Spreyton
Date 9th November 2008
Time 9am -4pm
contact 64283226

Toowoomba Native Orchid Society.

Sept 18-23rd 2008
at the Milne Bay Militery Museum.

Toowoomba. Come and see both Orchids and Museum.
Open 9am to 4.30pm each day.
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NOSTI Annual Sarc. Show

at Walsh's Seeds, Ruthven St., Toowoomba
on
25th-26th October
Show opens 9am each day and closes

4.30pm.
All are very welcome
Thank you
Sonia Hosking
NOSTI.
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ANOS Victoria Group Annual Spring Show

Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th September 2008

9am to 4pm each day
at
Mount Waverley Community Hall
47 Miller Cres.
Mount Waverley

Melway page 70E1

ANOS Geelong Group Annual Spring Sarcochilus Show

Saturday !st and Sunday 2nd November 2008
from 10am to 4pm
at
The Masonic Cemtre
Regent St, Belmont Geelong

Melways page 451 H 10

ANOS Melbourne Suburbs Group Show:

October 4th -5th
(ANOS judged).
Lillydale Lake Community Rooms,
Lilydale, 3140 Victoria
Times: Saturday 9am - 4.30 pm
Sunday 9am - 4.00 pm

Contact Tel: 03 9802 0654
More Details:
Web: http://www.anosvic.org.au/ANOS_MelbSub_Home.html

ANOS Newcastle Group Spring Show

Saturday 30th Sunday 31st August 2008 Club Macquarie, Main Road, Argenton

ANOS Mid North Coast Group Speciosum Spectacular

Saturday 6th Sunday 7th & Monday 8th September 2008 57 Spooners Avenue, Greenhills (Kempsey)

ANOS Central Coast Group Spring Show

Thursday 11th Friday 12th Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th September 2008 Flora Festival, Mt.Penang Parklands, Kariong

ANOS Warringah Group Spring Show

Saturday 13th Sunday 14th September 2008 Community Centre, Starkey Street, Forestville

ANOS Illawarra Group Spring Show

Saturday 13th Sunday 14th September 2008 Old Court House, Cliff Road, Wollongong

ANOS Sydney Group Spring Show

Saturday 20th September 2008 Eastwood Shopping Centre

ANOS Newcastle Group Wetlands Show

Friday 19th Saturday 20th Sunday 21st September 2008 Wetlands Centre, Sandgate Road, Shortland

ANOS Illawarra Group Sarc. Show

Saturday 18th Sunday 19th October 2008 Old Court House, Cliff Road, Wollongong

ANOS Central Coast Group Sarc. Show

Saturday 18th October 2008 Bushlands Garden & Aquarium Centre, 445 Cental Coast Highway, Erina Heights

ANOS Sydney Group Sarc. Show

Sunday 19st October 2008 Baulkham Hills Community Centre

ANOS Illawarra Group Show Dates

SPRING SHOW
Saturday 13th &
Sunday 14th September 2008
9am to 4pm each day
Venue -- The Old Courthouse, Cliff Rd,
Wollongong.

SARCOCHILUS SHOW
Saturday 18th and
Sunday 19th October 2008
9am to 4pm each day
Venue -- The Old Courthouse, Cliff Rd
Wollongong.

Letters to the Editor.

Hi Peter,

Love the "new" format showing ANOS awards... and the score card wonderful.... It will no doubt bring into discussion facets of Judging which I am sure, a, or, some of the judges would like to comment on. Even a few non Judges...?

1. Dockrilla's main feature is surely the "floriferousness" yet on the Judging table, the maximum points allotted is 15.

2. So when the points are allotted, good floriferous plants (like award No 138) receive 12.5 (average) with 685 flowers on 137 inflorenscences, and hence fell short of an AM by 0.8%

3. Where as award 133..... with few flowers (24) has received an AM.... ???? (Judged by appreciation)

Don't want to be picky.... but, award 136 Dendrobium Midas Touch has only received 9.9 for floriferous(ness). The picture shows a very well balanced plant with a good flower to foliage ratio that seems to have been "crucified".

Regards Eric Wilde

Hi Eric,

Thanks for the comments on the ANOS awards. John Creeggan, National Registrar of Judges, has some new ideas and this is one of them. Another idea, which will appear on the new ANOS website, will hopefully be the Judges Handbook, which can be downloaded by anyone wanting to read/use it. The handbook should be read by those wanting to bench plants for competition simply to see what judges are looking for.

The scores are only an average of all the scores awarded. Some judges may have marked higher, some lower. Again it comes down to individual tastes and preferences in orchids and interpretation of the Judging criteria.

Another idea will be a complete list of all ANOS Awards on the website.

Regards, Peter.

*****

The Editor,

Dear Peter,

It was great to see the ANOS awarded orchid details in the latest Orchadian.

The purpose of this email is to suggest that the good format used for the awards could be improved and made more useful by the inclusion of a close up image of the flower.

There would be room for a small image I believe, at the bottom right (alongside the measurements), or even better perhaps would be to exclude the standard points in the results as these are a constant, replace them with the APP (average panel points), and then place the measurements substantially in the location of the existing APP.

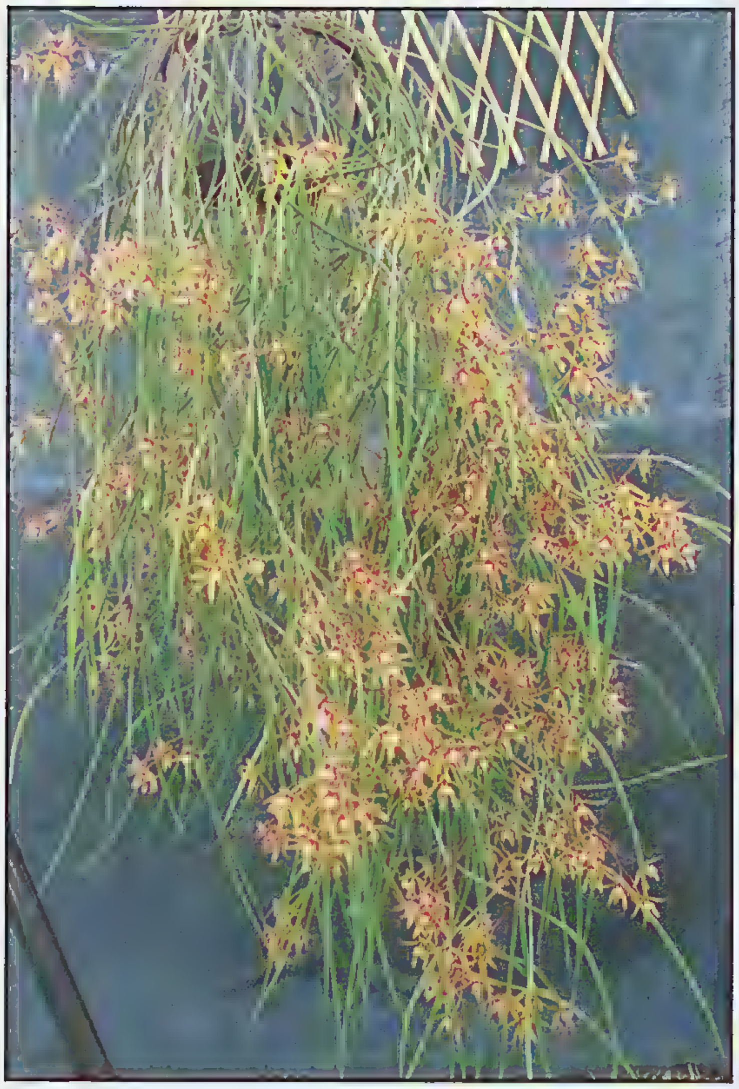
This I believe would leave a little more room for the close up image to be located handsomely at bottom left (i.e. where the measurements now are).

Sincerely,
Keith Riseley

Dear Keith,

I have taken some of your ideas on board, meeting you almost half way, making some small adjustments and adding a close up of the flower. As this is the first time award cards have been available to me I am still experimenting on how best to place them and what information to use. Editing and Designing is always a learning curve.

Thanks again, Peter.



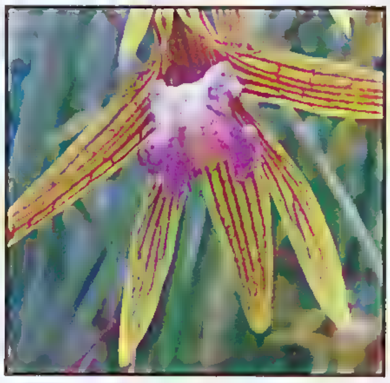
ANOS Award 139 ACC 81.0%

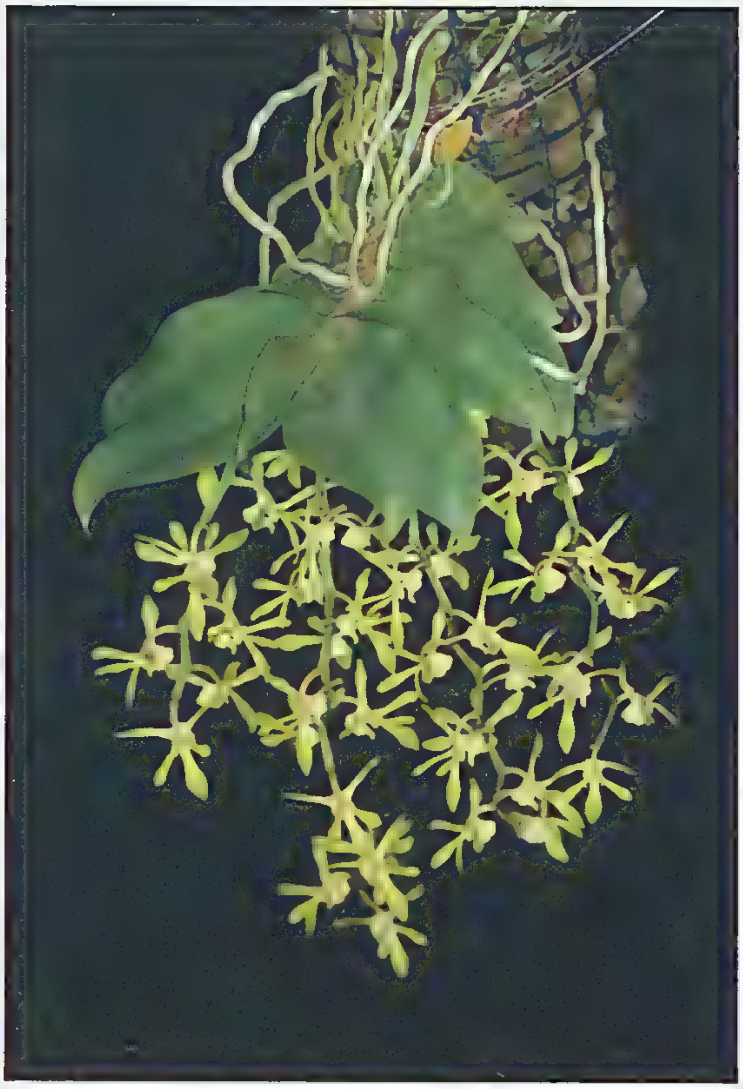
Dockrillia Tweetas 'Albies Gift'
Owner: Neville Lee
Judged by: New South Wales Panel
Date: 05/09/2007

Results		**Average Panel Points**
Shape	25	
Colour	20	
Size	15	
Substance & Texture	10	
Floriferous	15	Judged by
Habit of Infloresence	15	Appreciation
Total:	**100**	**81**

Measurements (mm)	
Across Flower	35.33
Vertical Flower	19.47
Petal L	19.54
Petal W	4.11
Sepal L	19.54
Sepal W	5.28
Dorsal L	17.96
Dorsal W	4.77
Labellum L	11.04
Labellum W	7.79

No. of Flowers	685
No. of Buds	10
No. Inflorescence	137





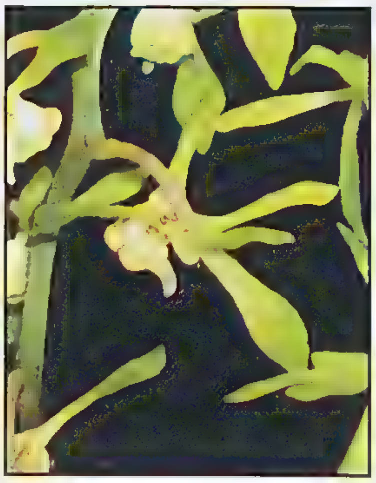
ANOS Award 140 ACC 90.0%

Sarcochilus olivaceous 'Judith'
Owner: John Douglas
Judged by: New South Wales Panel
Date: 12/10/2007

Results		**Average Panel Points**
Shape	25	
Colour	20	
Size	15	
Substance & Texture	10	
Floriferous	15	Judged by
Habit of Infloresence	15	Appreciation
Total:	**100**	**90**

Measurements (mm)	
Across Flower	
Vertical Flower	
Petal L	
Petal W	
Sepal L	
Sepal W	
Dorsal L	
Dorsal W	
Labellum L	
Labellum W	

No. of Flowers	41
No. of Buds	
No. Inflorescence	4



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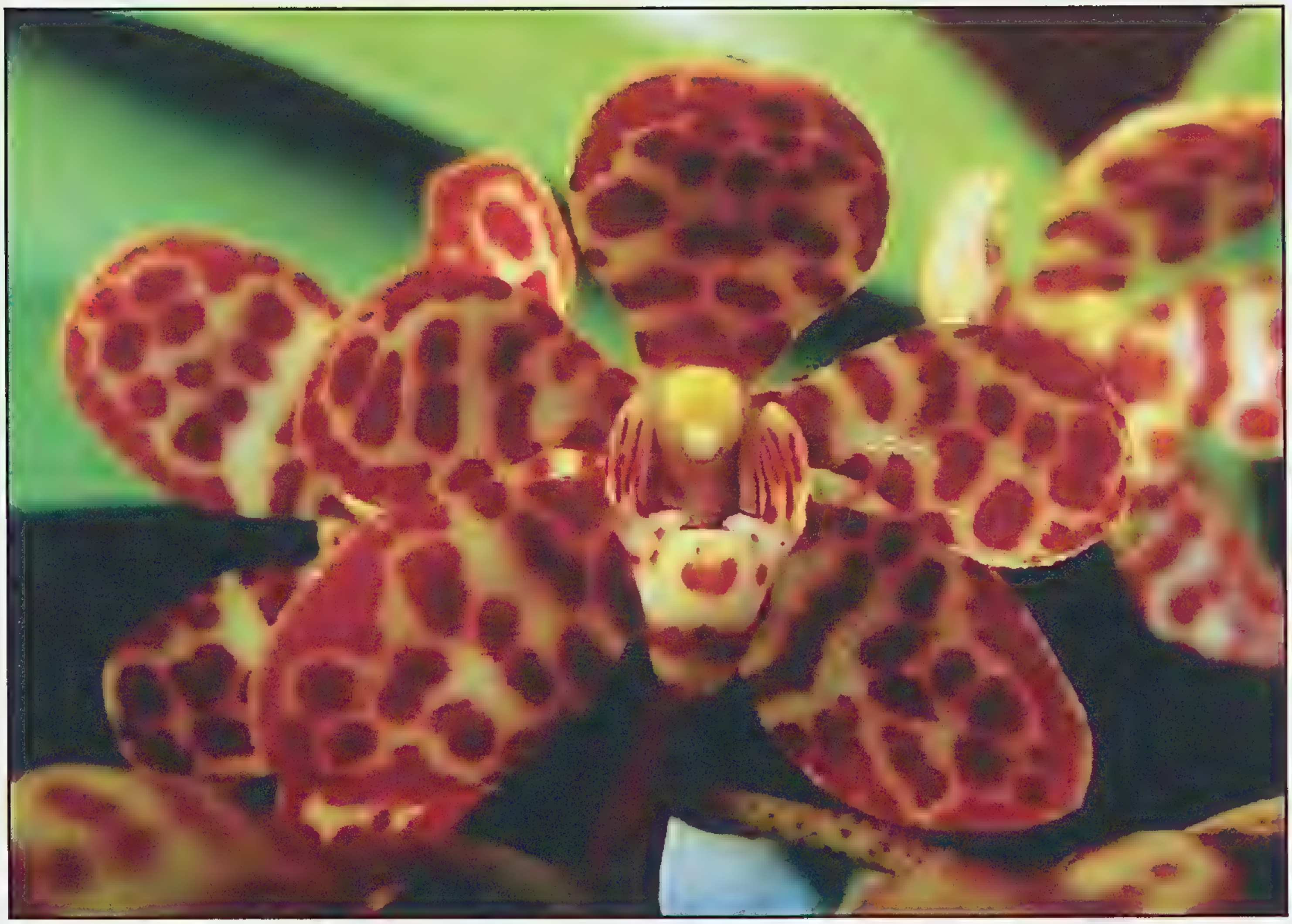
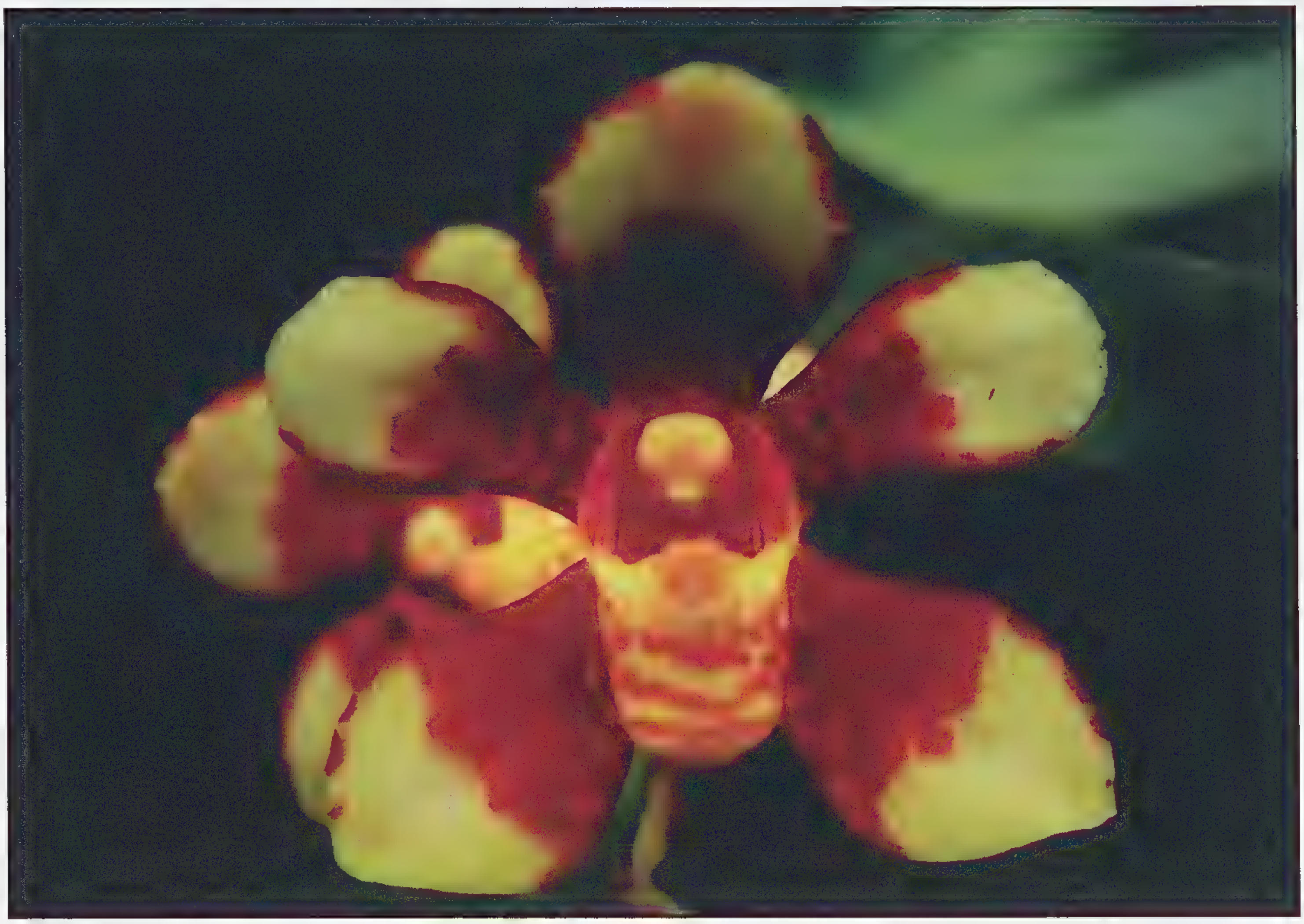
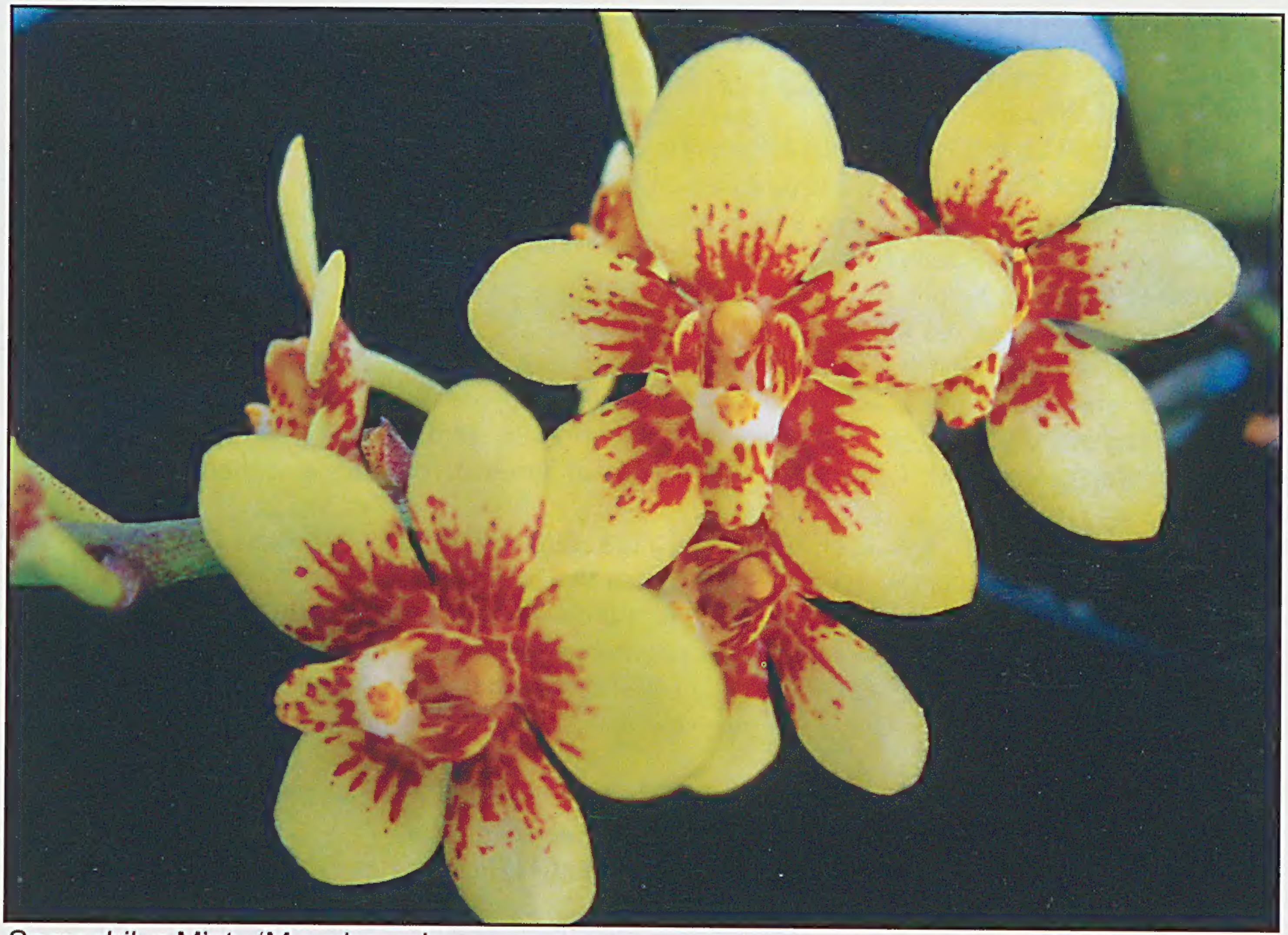


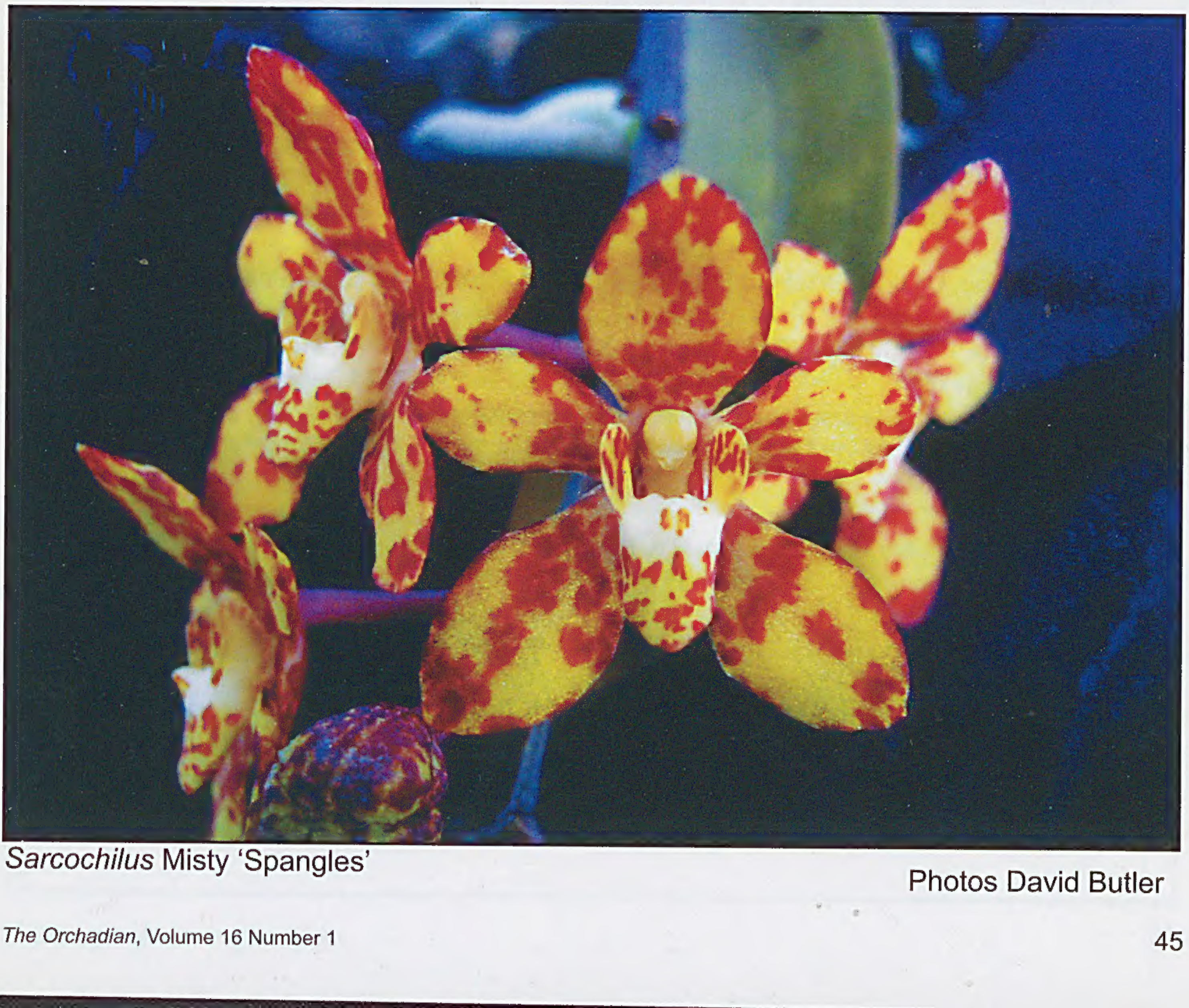
Sarcochilus Freckles 'Pepper and Salt'



Sarcochilus Kellie '#1'



Sarcochilus Misty 'Moonbeam'



Sarcochilus Misty 'Spangles'

Photos David Butler

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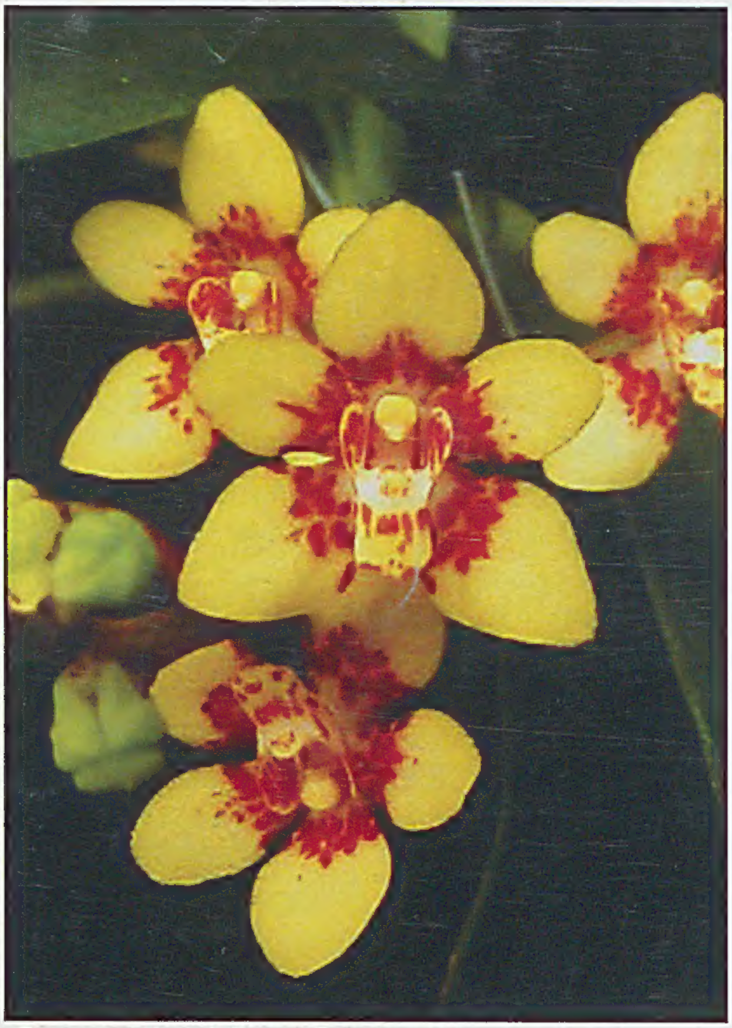
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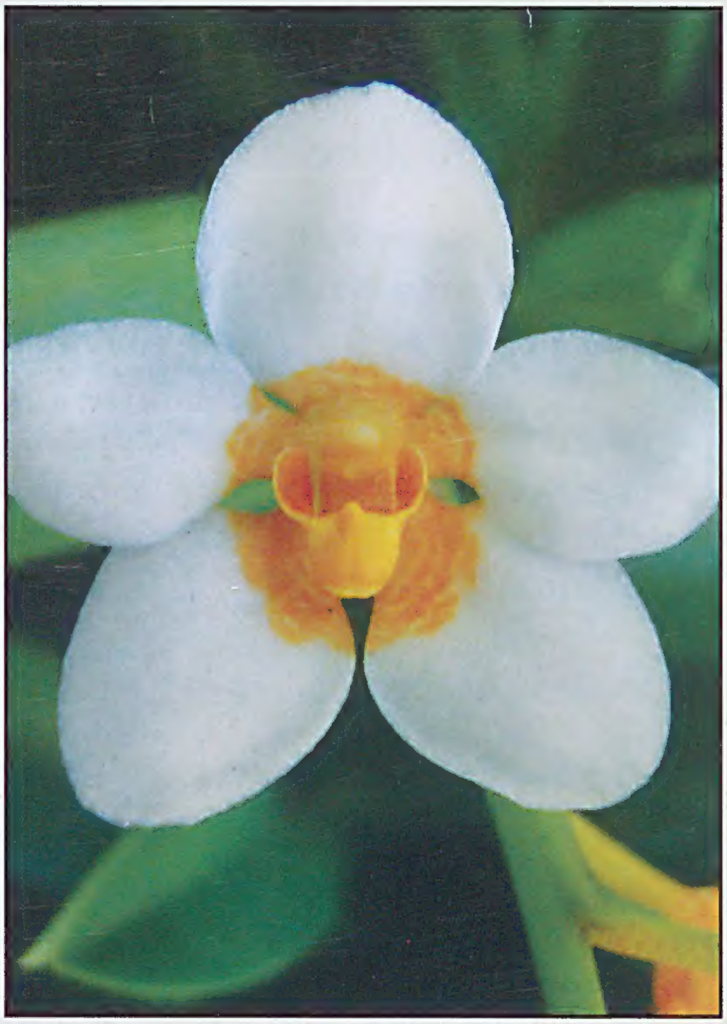
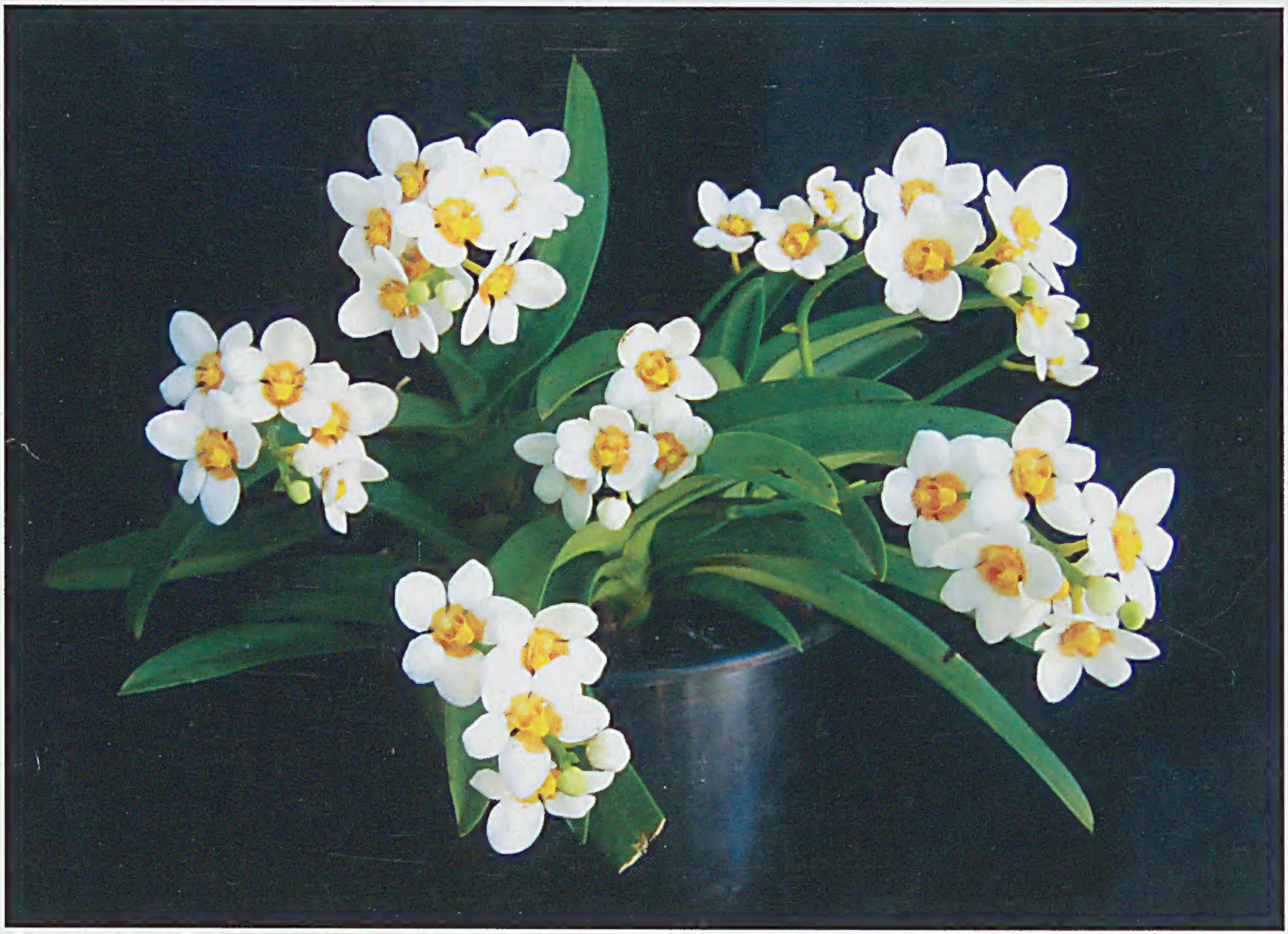

Sarcochilus Snowhart 'Yellow 2001'


Sarcochilus Snowhart 'Yellow 2001' (plant)

Photos David Butler